ESTABLISHED 1818.

PETER F. HEERING'S

COPENHAGEN

CHERRY BRANDY.

Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,284—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1898.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

INSIST UPON HAVING

MILKMAID BRAND CONDENSED MILK

Largest Sale in the World.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1898.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	
P.M.I. SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	23rd April.
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	30th "
P.M.I. EGYPT	6000	R. F. Briscoe	7th May.
* GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	14th "
P.M.L. ARABIA	6000	J. L. Parfitt	21st "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	28th "
P.M.I. CALEDONIA	7536	W. B. Andrews	4th June.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	11th "
P.M.L. ORIENTAL	5294	J. F. Jephson	18th "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	25th "
P.M.L. SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	2nd July.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	9th "
P.M.L. EGYPT	6000	R. F. Briscoe	16th "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	23rd "
P.M.L. ARABIA	6000	J. L. Parfitt	30th "
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	6th Aug.

The Steamers marked P.M.L. proceed to BRINDISI, MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH and LONDON direct.

The Steamers marked * proceed to ADEN only and cannot take Passengers for Europe.

The Steamers marked † proceed to Aden, and Passengers tranship there to a Steamer for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

Heavy Baggage must be sent to the Ballard Pier before 9 A.M. on the day of sailing.

A Steam Tender leaves the Ballard Pier at NOON on the day of sailing, to convey Passengers on board, and only such persons will be received. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with Port of Destination.

TO STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORT NIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports on route.

For further particulars apply to

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.

Bombay, 11th April, 1898.

P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.

EXTRA STEAMER.

THE s. s. "THAMES," will SAIL as an Extra Steamer, for LONDON, calling at MARSEILLES, on FRIDAY, 29th April, at 5 P.M.

A STEAM BARGE to take off Passengers will LEAVE the BALLARD PIER, at 3 P.M., on day of Sailing.

I. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N.Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACCELERATED SERVICE TO TRIESTE, *VIA* ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
IMPERATOR	T. Nicolich	4,119	1st May 1898.
IMPERATRIX	T. Rassovich	4,213	1st June 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck
TRIESTE, or VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

Steamers for BOMBAY leave TRIESTE on the 3rd, and BRINDISI, on the 4th of each month.

ORDINARY SERVICE TO TRIESTE, *VIA* KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
GISELA	L. relich	4,233	15th May 1898.
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	12th June 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE or VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150

STEAMERS for BOMBAY LEAVE TRIESTE on the 20th of each month.

RETURN TICKETS

By either Accelerated or Ordinary Service to TRIESTE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class
AVAILABLE for 6 MONTHS	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
AVAILABLE for 12 MONTHS	Rs. 1060	Rs. 635

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothard's, and other Routes.

In connection with the Steamers' Tickets the Company issue now Railway Tickets to the Principal Towns of Austria and Germany, as well as Tickets by steamers of the "Nord-Deutscher Lloyd" (North German Lloyd) to ports of North and South America, Australia, &c. called at by their vessels

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE "MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO."

THE Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares. This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on 3 months' privilege leave.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, KOBE.

Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	G. Wallusching..	4,409	29th April.

Connecting at COLOMBO with the S.S. AGLAIA to MADRAS and CALCUTTA on the Outward and Homeward voyage.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA,
Agent.

Sassoon House, 50, Church Gate Street, Bombay, April, 18, 1898.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

FOUR WEEKLY DEPARTURE.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT *VIA* ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday.
ERNEST SIMONS	5,707	DeManbenge	10th May 1898
INDUS	6,000	Vaquier	7th June 1898.
YARRA	4,255	Coispellic	5th July 1898.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, JAPAN, AND AUSTRALIA.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	5th May, 1898.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.

Old Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & CO.,

BOMBAY.

GRINDLAY & CO., CALCUTTA.

BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES booked without charge, and on the most favourable terms. Berth carefully selected, with special attention to grouping.

SLEEPING CAR AND CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, &c., booked on terms of existing concessions.

PASSENGERS met on arrival.

CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS and SOVEREIGNS, at current rates.

HAND-BOOKS supplied gratis, and general information promptly given.

LONDON AGENTS.—MESSRS. GRINDLAY & Co.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED).

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DWARKA," 1,695 tons, on the 22nd April, 1898, at 2 p. m., or later, on arrival of English Mail.

FOR KATHIAWAR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 28th April, 1898, at 10 a. m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder, Cutch Mandvie and Kurrachee, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "ASSYRIA," 1,495 tons, on the 21st April, 1898 at 10 a.m., calling at Kurrachee, Gwadur, Muscat, Jask, Muscat, Abbas, Lingo, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, LAMOO, MOMBASSA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about 30th April, 1898.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "SECUNDRA," 1,610 tons, on or about 28th April, 1898.

FOR SEYCHELLES, ZANZIBAR AND DELAGOA BAY.

S. S. "RAJPOOTANA," 2,030 tons, on or about 20th April, calling at Seychelles, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira and Delagoa Bay, in the foregoing or any order.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

PASSENGERS and Cargo booked through from Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, or Rangoon via Singapore for all ports adjacent to the various Gold Fields. Fortnightly departures from Singapore.

For further particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 19th April, 1898.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.

CALCUTTA.

HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

(JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.)

S. S. "IDZUMI MARU," Capt. NUNOME, 3,224 Tons, will sail for TUTICORIN, SINGAPORE, CHINA and JAPAN on or about 21st instant.

For freight and passage apply to

T. TAKAYANAGI,
Manager.

Victoria Buildings, Fort, Bombay, 11th April, 1898.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA

SOCIETA RIUNITE FLORIO RUBATTINO.

BOMBAY to NAPLES and GENOA, Calling at ALEXANDRIA for BRINDISI and VENICE.

Vessels.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
S.S. R. RUBATTINO	E. Saporito	5,000	28th April 1898

Rates to Naples, Genoa, Brindisi, or Venice:—

1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
Rs. 550	Rs. 325.	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO THE ABOVE PORTS:—

1st class, Strictly within three Months, Rs. 750; six Months Rs. 900 nine Months, Rs. 925; and twelve Months, Rs. 950.

Passengers have the option of going via Venice and Returning via Genoa or vice versa, and can Break their Journey at any Port, resuming it by subsequent Steamers of Bombay or other Weekly and Daily Local Lines.

Through and Return Tickets to London on Application.

BOMBAY to HONGKONG, calling at Singapore, on the 26th April, 1898.

For Freight and Passage, &c., apply to

F. BALDOVINO,
Agent.

Sassoon House, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, April 2, 1898.

WANTED.

WANTED AT SIMLA

AS SECRETARY for the United Service Institution of India, on a salary of Rs. 100 per mensem, a Member of the Institution who can obtain a year's leave in India, from about the 1st August, 1898.

For further particulars apply to the SECRETARY, Simla.

MENIST'S SPECTACLES.

MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST:—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver. Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turnpin Sides	60	26	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Solders	50	28	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs. 5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on Steel. The new Gold and Steel "Movfilette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in Stock. REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

SPECIAL.

Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES, are invaluable to people who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Stirrups with folding sides, folders and Globuler Spectacles, from Rs. 5 per pair.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

BOMBAY AND POONA

VISITING CARDS, DIES, CRESTS, Monograms, &c., &c., in elegant style and at the shortest notice. Engraving, Copper-plate Printing and Lithographing orders. For rates, apply SUPERINTENDENT, "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

—BURGUNDIES—

	Cash. Qts. per doz. Rs.	Cash. Pts. per doz. Rs. a.	Credit. Qts. per doz. Rs.	Credit. Pts. per doz. Rs. a.
CHAMBERTIN, a rich Burgundy of selected vintage	43 0	22 8	48 0	25 4
POMARD	25 0	13 12	28 0	15 8
MACON, possessed of fine flavour and aroma	23 0	12 12	26 0	14 4
BEAUNE, a full-bodied Burgundy	28 8	15 12	32 0	17 8
CHABLIS, a full-flavoured white Burgundy	27 0	15 0	30 0	16 12
RICH SPARKLING RED, very choice Desert Wine			Pints. 30 8	34 0

The above Wines are Special Selections and are of a very Superior Class, Good Burgundies have Tonic and Sustaining qualities, which make them especially valuable at this time of the year.

TREACHER & COMPANY, LD.,

BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

HOT WEATHER CLOTHING.

	Rs. a.		Rs. a.
Fine Wool Suits	from 30 0	Cool Undervests	6 for 16 0
Cool Sleeping Suits	" 9 8	Fine Thread Socks, per doz	from 16 0
Soft-Fronted Shirts, Pink, Blue and White Stiff Cuffs	6 for 24 0	Washing Ties (for Bows)	6 for 2 8
		White Shirts, Good Value	6 for 20 0

ASQUITH & LORD,

TAILORS AND OUTFITTERS, APOLLO STREET, BOMBAY.

USED ALL THROUGHOUT INDIA!

A small dose every morning Prevents and Wards off attacks of Epidemic, Fevers, Plague, &c. It wonderfully cures Ague, Chill, Fevers and Malaria when all other Remedies fail. Many cases of Bubonic Plague are cured by this wonderful Remedy.—MADON, SONS & Co.,—ESPLANADE CROSS ROAD.

RE. 1. SQUIBB'S AGUE SPECIFIC.

DO NOT

SMOKE

BAHADUR CIGARS

UNLESS YOU WANT

"THE BEST."

McDOWELL & Co., MADRAS AND LONDON.

THE EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

HEAD OFFICE: 29, ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.

FIRST YEAR'S BUSINESS

PROPOSALS EXCEED Rs. 19,00,000

INTENDING ASSURERS are invited to compare the RATES and CONDITIONS of the "EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE OFFICE" with those of any other Company.

The premiums are so moderate that at most of the insuring ages the average premium at present charged by offices doing business in India for a Policy for Rs. 1,000 will secure in the "Empire of India Life Office" an Assurance of Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,300, the difference of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 being equivalent to an increase in the sum assured of Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per cent.

ANNUAL PAYMENTS REQUIRED FOR VARIOUS KINDS OF POLICIES.

FOR Rs. 1,000 (With Profits).

Age next Birth day.	Sum Assured payable at Death. Premiums throughout Life.	Premiums limited to 25 years.	Premiums limited to 20 years.	Premiums limited to 15 years.	Sum Assured payable in 25 years or at Death if previous.	20 years or at Death if previous.	15 years or at Death if previous.
	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
20	21 10	27 2	30 7	36 6	37 11	47 6	64 6
25	24 2	29 7	33 9	39 4	43 7	48 9	64 12
30	27 4	32 5	36 9	42 13	39 11	49 9	65 10
35	31 6	35 14	39 13	47 1	41 10	50 8	66 13
40	36 11	40 8	44 9	52 5	44 10	52 14	69 11
45	43 14	46 12	50 13	58 13	49 6	56 13	71 11

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

All Funds invested in Government and other Securities, authorised by the Trust Act (II. of 1882).

In order to give greater security to the Policy-holders, it has been provided in the Articles of Association that two of the Members of the Board of Directors may be elected by the Policy-holders from amongst themselves, and thus have a voice in its Management. THIS CONCESSION IS NOT ALLOWED IN ANY OTHER PROPRIETARY INSTITUTION.

SURRENDER VALUES IN CASH OR FREE POLICY.

On participating Policies two-fifths (40 per cent.) and on non-participating Policies 35 per cent. of the total Premiums paid at the tabular rate.

Policies effected by Limited Number of Premiums and Endowment Assurances have a larger proportionate surrender value.

PROMPT PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—Claims are payable immediately on receipt of satisfactory proof of death and title.

MEDICAL FEES AND POLICY STAMPS.—Are payable by the Company.

LOANS ON POLICIES.—Granted at six per cent. on the surrender value.

CHILDREN'S ENDOWMENTS.—All Premiums are returned in the event of the death of the Child.

Detailed Prospectus, Proposals, Reports and other particulars on application to

E. F. ALLUM, General Manager.

Active and energetic AGENTS and CANVASSERS WANTED all over India, Burma and Ceylon.

REPUTATION PREMIER. NAME PREMIER. BICYCLES PREMIER.

THE following 1898 MODELS are Stocked and can be had for cash, or on the Instalment System.

	Cash. Rs. a.	Credit. 12 instalments. Rs. a.	
The Gent's Weldless "Kangaroo" or Innian Primer	250 0	23 0	per month.
The Lady's Weldless "Kangaroo" or Indian Premier	275 0	25 0	"
The "Popular Premier Helical" Roadster	300 0	27 12	"
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "S"	380 0	30 8	"
The "Premier" Helical Road Racer Model "R"	380 0	30 8	"
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "P"	410 0	38 0	"
The "Premier" Helical Road Racer Model "O"	410 0	38 0	"
The "Premier" Helical Roadster Model "Z"	450 0	41 8	"
The "Premier" Helical "Polo" Standing Mount	456 0	41 8	"
The "Royal Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety	450 0	41 8	"
The "Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety Model "G"	410 0	38 0	"
The "Premier" Helical Ladies' Safety Model "H"	380 0	30 8	"
The Girls' "Premier" Helical Safety Model "N"	275 0	25 0	"
The Youths' "Premier" Helical Safety Model "M"	250 0	23 0	"

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

AGENTS FOR THE NEW PREMIER CYCLE CO., LTD.,

BOMBAY AND POONA.

—DEWAR'S— —PERTH— —WHISKY.—

OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.

SOLE IMPORTERS

FOR WESTERN INDIA.

LATHAM AND CO.,

BOMBAY AND KARACHI.

UNION ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Established in 1714. Accumulated Funds, £2,932,697 Stg.

LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Capital fully subscribed.....£2,127,500 Stg.
Total Security to Policy-holders .....£3,000,694 Stg.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE.

The Oldest Fire Office in the World, Founded 1710.
Total Sum Insured in 1896 .....£388,950,000 Stg.

LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Incorporated by RoyalCharter, 1720. Fire Prem. in 1896, £397,097 Stg.

SOUTH BRITISH INSURANCE CO. OF NEW ZEALAND

Authorized Capital.....£1,900,000 Stg.
Claims paid to date.....£2,725,009 Stg.

RELIANCE MARINE INSURANCE CO., LD.

Capital fully subscribed, £500,000 Stg. Reserve Fund, £100,000 Stg.

As Agents of the above-named Companies, we are prepared to Accept Risks, Fire, and Marine, at Current Rates.

GREAVES, COTTON & CO.,

1, FORBES STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

CASCARA SAGRADA

THE "SACRED BARK" OF

NORTH AMERICA,

RHAMNUS PURSHIANA.

This is admitted the FINEST REMEDY for HABITUAL CONSTIPATION known. It is a Tonic Laxative, quickly restoring the normal action of the Organs, without any of the lowering effects left by other Aperients. After a few doses the quantity may be gradually diminished, and the Constipation will, as a rule, be found PERMANENTLY CURED.

MESSRS. KEMP offer some preparations of this invaluable drug:—

	Per Bottle.
THE FLUID EXTRACT	Rs. 1-2 & 0-10
THE TASTELESS FLUID EXTRACT	1-0 & 1-12
THE TASTELESS AROMATISED FLUID EXTRACT	Re. 1-0

All these may be relied upon as fresh and active and superior to the imported preparations of the bark.

KEMP & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

HAND-BOOK OF GIRAS AND GUARANTEE,

BEING a Compilation of Decisions, &c., on Questions regarding Giras, wants, and other Guaranteed Rights with an Introductory Account of the Settlements in Kathiawar, Mahikantha and Rewakantha, together with Appendices and a Copious Index.

PRICE..... Rs. 6.

Packing and Postage extra.

To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Press, Bombay.

FOR THIS SEASON KEMP'S, SUMMER EFFERVESCENT

A FINELY GRANULATED SALINE,

Forming a sparkling draught equal to any artificial or natural mineral water

IT FORMS a most REFRESHING BEVERAGE and taken regularly will maintain the Health and Vigour of the body by purifying the blood and correcting any minor derangement of the STOMACH.

IT QUICKLY relieves HEADACHE and is very suitable for CHILDREN'S USE.

Price Re. 1-4 per Bottle.

KEMP & Co., LD., BOMBAY.

WHAT FINER CAN YOU DRINK THAN

JOHN JAMESON

& SONS' (DUBLIN)

"OWN CASED" VERY OLD BLACK-BOTTLE

WHISKEY.

Please see you get it with

MEDICAL CAPSULES { BLUE ..... One Star. PINK ..... Two Stars. GOLD..... Three Stars.

OF ALL DEALERS

Sole Export Bottling Agents to J. J. & S.:—

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THACKER & CO., LD., BOMBAY.

THREE BOOKS ON THE FRONTIER EXPEDITION.

	Rs. a.
A FRONTIER CAMPAIGN. A Narrative of the operations of the Malakand and Boner Field Force, 1897-98. By Viscount Fincastle, V. C., and Lieut. Eliot-Lockhart. With Maps and 16 Illustrations	2 0
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LOCKHART'S ADVANCE THROUGH TIRAH. By Captain L. J. Shadwell, P. S. C., Special Correspondent of the "London Daily News," and "The Pioneer," 350 Pages, Two Maps and Seven Full-page Illustrations, will shortly be published	5 12

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SPORT IN THE HIGHLANDS OF KASHMIR: Being a Narrative of an eight months' Trip in Baltistan and Ladak. By H. Z. Darrah, I. C. S. With nearly 50 Illustrations and Map	21 0
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EXPLORATION AND HUNTING IN CENTRAL AFRICA, 1895-96. By A. St. H. Gibbons. With 8 full-page Illustrations and 25 Photographs	5 8
HINTS TO YOUNG POLO PLAYERS, By Captain DeLisle, Capt. of the Invincible Durham Light Infantry Team, the Winners of 15 consecutive tournaments and the present Champions of India. The Durhams have won the Inter-Regimental Tournament three years in succession, Capt. DeLisle being the Captain on each occasion	3 0

NEW MILITARY BOOKS.

CAVALRY DRILL, 1893. One Volume, just issued	1 0
MUSKETRY REGULATIONS, 1893. Just issued	0 12

G. I. P. R. ALFRESCO DANCE

Will take place
ON PAREL GYMKHANA GROUNDS
ON FRIDAY, 22ND.
TICKETS Rs. 1.

Y. M. C. A. ROOMS, APOLLO BUNDER.

MR. A. KLEIN, B.A., who has been on A PREACHING TOUR THROUGH INDIA will be in Bombay for THURSDAY and FRIDAY, the 21st and 22nd instant, and will PREACH the GOSPEL at the above Rooms. Hours 8-30 p.m., Sharp. All are cordially invited, No Collection.

THE DAVID MILLS CO., LD.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders, held on TUESDAY, the 19th April, 1898, a DIVIDEND at the Rate of Rs. 25 per Share, free of Income Tax, for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1897, has been declared payable at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 14, Rampart Road, on and after MONDAY, the 2nd May, 1898, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., to Shareholders whose names stood on the Company's Register on the 18th April, 1898, on presentation of their Share Certificates.

By Order,
SASSOON J. DAVID & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 20th April, 1898.

THE STANDARD MILLS CO., LD.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders, held on TUESDAY, the 19th April, 1898, a DIVIDEND at the Rate of Rs.15, per Share, free of Income Tax, for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1897, has been declared payable at the Registered Office, of the Company, No. 14, Esplanade Road, on and after MONDAY, the 2nd May, 1898, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to Shareholders whose names stood on the Company's Register on the 18th April, 1898, on presentation of their Share Certificates.

By Order,
SASSOON J. DAVID & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 20th April, 1898.

THE BUCKINGHAM MILL Co., LD., MADRAS.

IMITATION HOLLANDS
(Country Manufactured.)

H. 8, H. 11, H. 69.

Four Rupees per piece,
SIX YARDS FOR ONE RUPEE.
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DEATHS FROM CHOLERA:—Municipality of Bombay, Superintendent, Water Works, Chinchpokli. 29th Oct. 97. Memo. No. 1738—35 a of 1897-98:—Many of my workmen residing in the Municipal Chawl at Chinchpokli were attacked by Cholera and they have been SAVED by Batliwalla and Co.'s "CHOLERAL." There was not a single case of failure. I wish it should have still more wider circulation. . . . As for Batliwalla's Ague Mixture or Pills no more Testimonials are required, when they are used with success for the Staff of the Bombay Municipality "Bombay Gazette," "Times of India," "Advocate of India" &c., &c. Sold by Chemists and Druggists at Re. 1 per Bottle, or sent by Dr. Batliwalla, Worli, Dadar, Bombay Discount to the Trade.

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NOTICES.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY. NOTICE.

WITH reference to the notice dated the 25th of November last, on and from WEDNESDAY next, the twentieth instant, the DOWN TRAIN LEAVING BOMBAY for POONA at 22-45 and the UP TRAIN LEAVING POONA at 13-55 for Bombay will recommence running as daily Trains.

A. MUIRHEAD,
General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, 18th April, 1898.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING MUNICIPAL SECRETARY, BOMBAY.

REQUIRED the SERVICES of a Gentleman as ACTING MUNICIPAL SECRETARY of Bombay for six months from 22nd May, 1898.

If the Services of the Gentleman so appointed are approved, the appointment will, in all probability, be made permanent from the expiration of the period of six months. The Salary of the appointment is Rs. 700 rising to Rs. 1,000 per mensem, and the holder of the same is required to devote his whole time and attention to the duties of his office.

Applications to be addressed to the Chairman of the Standing Committee, Municipal Offices, Bombay, on or before the 7th proximo.

By Order.
H. WYNFORD BARROW,
Municipal Secretary.

Municipal Offices, Bombay, 18th April, 1898.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, will be held at the Offices of the Company, ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, on WEDNESDAY, the 20th day of April, 1898, at 12 P. M.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED, from Tuesday, the 5th, to Wednesday, the 20th instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F. I. A.,
Manager and Actuary.

Bombay, April 4th, 1898.

THE NEW APOLLO PRESS CO., LIMITED, (IN LIQUIDATION).

NOTICE is hereby given that the EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company called on Wednesday, the 6th instant, was POSTPONED for WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant, at 2-30 P.M., for want of a quorum.

MEHERALLI DEWRAJ MASTER,
Surviving Liquidator.

Liquidator's Office, 20, Samuel Street, Bombay, 12th April, 1898.

BHAVNAGAR HARBOUR WORKS.

TENDERS will be received up to 20th May, 1898, for the supply of THREE HUNDRED TONS of DESHAGUR BENGAL COALS to be delivered at the Port of Bhavnagar, on or before the 1st August, 1898.

The Tenders should be addressed to the STATE ENGINEER, Bhavnagar, and should specify proposed date of delivery.

Bhavnagar, 16th April, 1898.

THE AHMEDABAD-PRANTEJ RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Ahmedabad-Prantej Railway Company, Limited, will be held on MONDAY, the 2nd May, 1898, at 3-30 p.m., at the registered Office of the Company, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay, to transact the following business:—

1st—To adopt the Directors' Report and Audited Statement of Accounts made up to 31st December, 1897.

2nd—To elect a Director in the place of Khan Bahadur Nowrojee Pestonji Vakil, C.I.E., who retires by rotation but is eligible for re-election, and to confirm the appointment of Mr. L. R. W. Forrest.

3rd—To appoint Auditors for the current year and fix their remuneration.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 2nd May to 21st May, 1898, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
KILLICK, NIXON & Co.,
Agents.

Bombay, 14th March, 1898.

THE TAPTI VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the THIRD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Tapti Valley Railway Company, Limited, will be held on MONDAY, the 2nd May, 1898, at 4 p.m., at the registered office of the Company, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay, to transact the following business:—

1st—To adopt the Directors' Report and Audited Statement of Accounts made up to 31st December, 1897.

2nd—To elect a Director in place of Sir Jamsetjee Jijeebhoy, Bart., C. S. I., who retires by rotation but is eligible for re-election, and to confirm the appointment of Mr. H. A. H. Payne as Director in place of the Hon'ble Mr. R. M. Sayani.

3rd—To appoint Auditors for the current year and fix their remuneration.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 2nd May, to 21st May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
KILLICK, NIXON & Co.,
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Bombay, 14th March, 1898.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are invited for the supply (25 per cent. more or less) of the following BLANKETS for Mountain Batteries in the Bombay Command, during the year 1898-99, commencing from the 1st April 1898. The Blankets should be according to the latest Specification.

Blankets I. P.	
6 feet by 5 feet	No. 173
5½ feet by 4 feet	,, 91
Shaped M. B. Ordnance Mules and Ponies	,, 173

2. Tenders will be received up to 4 P.M., on the 30th April, 1898, at the Arsenal Office, on Printed Forms which can be obtained on application at the rate of two annas each. They should be accompanied by a deposit (Treasury Receipts or Government Promissory Notes) at the rate of two per cent. on the total amount Tendered for, as earnest-money, which will be returned on execution of a Contract Deed or rejection of tenders.

MALCOLM CAMPBELL, CAPTAIN, R.A.,
Ordnance Officer In Charge.

Arsenal Office, Quetta, 9th April, 1898.

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By Order of the Board,
C. BERESFORD,
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Bombay, 7th April, 1898.

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BRANCHES:
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawspore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Deposits fixed for 1 year at 4½ per cent interest, and for shorter periods, at rates to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE AGRA BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL £600,000
RESERVE FUND .....£ 20,000

LONDON BANKERS.
THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
GLYN MILLS, CURRIE AND COMPANY.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.
SCOTLAND.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND AND BRANCHES.
IRELAND.
PROVINCIAL BANK OF IRELAND AND BRANCHES.
BRANCHES
At Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Lahore, Kurrachee.

CORRESPONDENTS.

PARIS	The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ld.
SINGAPORE, PENANG	Messrs. Boustead & Co.
HONGKONG	Messrs. Gilman & Co.
AUSTRALIA	Bank of Australasia and Branches.
COLOMBO	The Bank of Madras.
RANGOON	Bank of Bengal
AGRA	Alliance Bank of Simla, Ld.
DELHI	Bank of Bengal.

BOMBAY BRANCH.

ACCOUNTS CURRENT opened and Interest allowed when the Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS

Received on Terms to be learnt on application.

HOME REMITTANCE DEPOSITS for family and other remittances to Europe in the Bank's own Bills and Interest at 3 per cent. allowed thereon pending remittance.

Circular Notes issued negotiable in all the principal Towns in Europe. Securities received in safe custody and Interest and Dividends realised thereon.

LOANS granted on Government Paper or other convertible Securities; and APPROVED Bills discounted.

GOVERNMENT and other STOCKS and SHARES bought and sold, and the safe custody of the same undertaken.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected; and every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency transacted.

SYDNEY L. WYATT, Manager.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.
LONDON 53:—Threadneedle Street, E.C.
LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL ...Frs. 100,000,000 (£4,000,000)

LONDON BANKERS:—
BANK OF ENGLAND.
UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tamarave.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 2, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 40m. Sun sets, 6h. 18m. High water, 11-15m., 11-10n. Low water, 4-35m., 4-57a.
Municipal Standing Committee, 3 p.m.
Oriental Life Assurance Company, Oriental [Buildings, 2 p.m.
New Apollo Press Company, Samuel Street, 2-30 p.m.
Sassoon Mechanics' Institute, Dr. Weir's lecture on the Plague in Bombay, 5-30 p.m.
Music on the Esplanade, 5-30 p. m.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Seychelles, Zanzibar, Daressalam, Ibo, Chinde, Mozambique, Beira, Delagoa Bay, Natal, and Transvaal, per extra steamer Rajputana, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 9 a.m., to-morrow.

VAGRANCY.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Mynn charged Alfred John Wiltey, aged thirty years, before Mr. P. H. Dastur, with wandering about the city without any ostensible means of subsistence. The accused expressed his willingness to go to the workhouse, whereupon the court made an order declaring him a vagrant and sent him to the Workhouse.

GORED BY A BULL.—Janoo Bhicoo, a Hindu, aged thirty-five years, residing at Thakordwar Road, was, on Sunday afternoon, coming out of the compound of the Thakordwar temple, when he was gored by a bull, inflicting a wound on the back. He was conveyed home, where he grew worse, and on the following day was taken to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where he has been detained.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.—There will be the following races on Saturday next:—Yachts (Class A) Handicap race. Start at 3-45 p.m. Course No. 6. Tomtit Class race. Start at 4 p.m. Course No. 13 (three times round). There will also be a Yachts (Class B) Handicap race, provided that entries for at least four boats be received. First prize, Rs. 12; second prize Rs. 6. Start at 3-30 p.m. Course No. 6.

MUSIC ON THE ESPLANADE.—The Band of the 25th Bombay Rifles, under the direction of Herr. C. Fredilis, will play the following programme at the Esplanade Bandstand, this evening, at 5-30:—

Quadrille	La Grande Duchesse	Strauss
Overture	Im Italianischen Style	Schubert
Valse	Destrizes	D'Albert
Cavatina	Il Barcoaretto di Zandam	Donizetti
	(Eb Clarionet solo.)	
Selection	Maid Marian	R de Koven
Gallop	Cyclists	Kupler

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Constable Henry Brewin charged Mahomed Imam, a Mahomedan of bad character, with robbery. It appeared from the evidence that on Saturday night, at about 9 o'clock, while Edulji Fakirji Mistry, an assistant teacher in the Fort High School, was passing along the road near the Tivoli Theatre, the accused stopped him and forcibly removed a metal watch, of the value of Rs. 10. The accused was convicted and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

THE STABBING AFFRAY AT BAPTY ROAD.—Before Mr. W. R. Hamilton, Second Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Saunderson charged Gainoo Luximon, a Hindu, with attempting to murder his wife Seeta by cutting her throat with a penknife in the room of a chawl on Bapty Road on Saturday last. The accused had absconded after committing the deed and was sought for by the police. About 9 o'clock, on Monday night, one Kondaji Sayaji gave certain information to the police, which led to the arrest of the accused on Sopari Baugh Road. The wound inflicted on the prosecutrix, and the presence of the punch pointed out the knife with which he committed the offence from under a stone in a sweepers' gully, some fifty paces away from his house. The case was remanded.

DR. WEIR ON THE PLAGUE.—Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel T. S. Weir will lecture at the Sassoon Mechanics' Institute, this evening, at 5-30, on the subject of the "Plague in Bombay, its history and the means that have been taken to overcome it." The occasion will be one of universal interest, as the lecture will be illustrated by microscopic contributions from laboratories in Bombay and by diagrams. As we may be approaching the end of the epidemic the means to be adopted for future protection acquire a daily increasing importance. This first public lecture on plague should therefore find a prompt appreciation among the members of the Institute and their friends, who are invited to attend. The business of the meeting will begin promptly at the hour stated.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A YOUNG WIFE.—A coroner's inquiry was held, yesterday, at Delisle Road, on view of the body of Gunga, a Hindu girl, aged eleven years, wife of Bhow Rama, a mill-labourer, residing in that locality. On Monday morning, deceased went up a ladder to a loft in the room to fetch some cowdung cakes, and as she was coming down the staircase, she missed her footing and fell down on her face on the ground, a distance of about eight feet and a-half. When picked up by her husband, she was conscious and complained of pain in her chest. She was not removed to any hospital, but treated at home with household remedies. The pain increased, she became unconscious, and died in the afternoon. A verdict of accidental death in accordance with the above facts was returned by the jury.

CHEATING BY FALSE LETTERS.—Yesterday, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Dominick Cayetan Pinto, a Goanese, was charged by Superintendent Brewin with cheating. It appeared that the accused was in the habit of writing letters to different persons, in the name of respectable people, begging of them the loan of small sums of money and promising to return them as soon as possible. On the 9th instant, he took a letter to Mr. H. Chalmers, soliciting a loan of five rupees, on behalf of Mr. A. Bhicaji, the jeweller. Mr. Chalmers paid the accused Rs. 5 on the strength of that letter, but subsequently finding that he had been cheated, he reported the matter to the police. The police succeeded in arresting the accused, and found on enquiry that about a dozen persons had been similarly defrauded. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

A CASE DISMISSED.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Veterinary-Surgeon P. R. Von Wittekind appeared before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, to answer a charge of criminal intimidation preferred against him by Steward Ellerson. The complainant stated that on the 29th ultimo the accused came to his place in Forbes Street and asked him to return certain surgical instruments, which he (the accused) had given him to clean. Shortly after the accused took up the instruments, and as he was going away without paying for them, the complainant remonstrated with him. The accused thereupon showed his fist and gave an angry look. The complainant said he was then suffering from the bad effects of an accident, and he, therefore, allowed him to take away the instruments. The accused denied the truth of the complaint laid against him. The magistrate warned and discharged the accused.

SUICIDE THROUGH SUFFERING.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the Babulla Tank Road, touching the death of Tejbai, aged sixty years, a mendicant widow, residing alone in the room of a chawl at Bomgree Street. Deceased had been a widow for the last thirty years, and had no near relations in Bombay. She had been suffering from leprosy for ten years, and lost her toes and fingers two years ago. Life had become so miserable that she often wished for death. About 2 o'clock, on Monday afternoon, Tejbai was seen jumping into the Babulla Tank by a Mahomedan lad, who raised an alarm. A policeman went up sharply to the spot and noticed the hair of the deceased floating on the surface of the water. She was sent in, but the hair soon disappeared and the body could not be found. The tank was then dragged by the police, and the body was recovered in the evening. There were no marks of violence on the body. A verdict of suicide was recorded.

SUICIDE BY MEANS OF A SAREE.—About midnight, on Monday, Neera, a nalkin (dancing girl), aged forty-five years, committed suicide by hanging herself with a saree tied round her neck from a window on the second storey of her own house, at Girgaum Road. From an inquiry held by Mr. Turner, the coroner, yesterday morning, on the body of the deceased, it appears that for the last two years she had been ailing and was slightly out of her mind. She used to mutter to herself and imagined that someone was killing her. She was tired of life, and about a year ago attempted to throw herself out of a window, but was prevented from doing so. During the whole of Monday last she was in her usual state of mind. About half-past 10 o'clock, at night, her daughters, who had all remained seated beside her bed, retired to bed in their different rooms, leaving deceased alone in her room. About midnight Neera was found hanging outside a window in her room by a hamal employed in the house, who raised an alarm. Her daughters awoke, went up to the room, and found one end of the saree tied to the lower part of one of the windows in the room, the deceased hanging with the other end of the saree, tied round her neck, outside the window. Her body was brought down on to the first floor, and water poured into her mouth, but she was unable to swallow it as she was unconscious. Drs. De Mello and D. B. Naik treated her, but she never came to herself again, and died at 5-0 o'clock in the morning. Dr. De Mello was of opinion that the death was due to pressure on the upper part of the spinal cord. The jury brought a verdict of suicide in accordance with the medical evidence.

THE MUNICIPALITY AND PLAGUE DISINFECTANTS.

LEOPOLD & CO. VS. THE *Bombay Gazette*.

THE following are the documents in a case filed yesterday in the High Court arising out of the publication in the *Bombay Gazette* and previously published in the *Times of India* of a letter from the Municipal Commissioner to the Standing Committee regarding certain disinfectants supplied to the Municipality and the Plague Committee:—

THE PLAINT.

1. The plaintiffs carry on business in partnership as General Merchants and Chemists at Colaba Causeway and Byculla, in Bombay. Their business is large and extensive both in Bombay and the mofussil, and until the 28th February, 1898, included a contract for the supply of disinfectants to the Bombay Municipality and to the Plague Committee.

2. The defendant is, and was at the time of the publication hereinafter complained of, the editor and proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*, a daily newspaper printed and published in Bombay and having wide circulation throughout India and more particularly in Bombay and the Bombay Presidency.

3. The defendant, being such editor and proprietor, as aforesaid, on the 22nd of March, 1898, falsely and maliciously printed and published in the said *Bombay Gazette* of and concerning the plaintiffs in their said business of merchants and chemists and in their said office as contractors for the supply of disinfectants to the said Municipality and Plague Committee, the words following:—

THE LATE CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF MUNICIPAL DISINFECTANTS.

SURPRISING ALLEGATIONS.

The following letter from the Municipal Commissioner was considered by the Standing Committee and the proposals contained therein approved at a recent weekly meeting:—

I have the honour to state for the information of the Standing Committee the terms on which, subject to the Committee's approval, I propose to compromise a claim against Messrs. Leopold and Company arising out of their contract for supply of disinfectants for the year just terminated. It was brought to my notice by the Chief Accountant in January last that the result of investigations he had been making was to show that there had been shortages in the weight of some of the carbolic acid powder supplied by these contractors, both to the Municipality and to the Plague Committee, and further that some of the the recent supply to the Plague Committee of carbolic acid fluid was of a most inferior description, being largely made up of coal tar oils. As regards the powder, owing chiefly to the extreme laxity (if not worse) of the Municipal Inspector of Stores and to the want of system which seems to have prevailed in the Stores Department of the Plague Committee, it has unfortunately been impossible to ascertain the actual extent of shortages which have occurred, under the contract the carbolic acid powder was guaranteed to contain 15 p r cent. of carbolic acid and was to be supplied in casks, each containing 200 lbs. net weight of powder. So far as can be ascertained there is no reason to suppose that the quality of the powder has been in any way inferior, but it is certain that in many instances, at any rate, the contents of the casks or boxes were largely deficient in weight. The largest of these, which was found to have weight goods as received, or at any rate a large percentage of them, and who of course ought to have at once reported any short weight when confronted with the undoubted fact that the stores then in his charge were under weight, made a lame and very unsatisfactory attempt at explanation to the effect that on finding that supplies which were being delivered in October last were largely under-weight, he contented himself with informing the Contractors by telephone, that they excused themselves (also by telephone) saying that they could not get men to make boxes of the proper size, but would send whatever quantity he found to be deficient and that they did so; that he gave receipts for the number of boxes in the first instance received (though knowing them to be short weight) but not for those stated to have been received to make up the weight. There are numerous somewhat inflated details bearing on the suspicious and unsatisfactory state of things which has been found to have existed, but I do not think it desirable to discuss these at present. I directed the Chief Accountant immediately to consult the Municipal Solicitors on the matter thoroughly, and advise me that though under the contract the Contractors' deposit amounting to rupees 6,500 is declared liable to forfeiture for breach of contract, it is doubtful under the circumstances, and having regard to the absence of evidence as to the actual extent of shortages, &c., how far this liability would be enforced by a Court; they therefore think that unsatisfactory though the conduct of the Contractors has been, it is better to content ourselves with inflicting a reasonable penalty than invite the expensive and troublesome litigation which would almost certainly result if we insisted on the forfeiture of the deposit.

After considering matters carefully with the Chief Accountant and Solicitors, I instructed the latter to write to the Contractors to insist on their supplying free of charge 300 additional boxes of powder of 200 lbs. net weight each and replacing certain drums of carbolic acid fluid recently supplied to No. 2 Plague District. This practically represented a penalty equivalent to about Rs. 3,340 in cash. The Contractors while repudiating any suggestion of intentional unfair dealing, have, after some correspondence, so far met this demand as to offer to deliver to the Municipality at once free of charge carbolic acid as per contract of the value of Rs. 3,000 in full settlement of all claims. It happens that at the present time it will suit us better to have acid, than powder, and as the difference between us (Rs. 340) is not large I am disposed under all the circumstances to agree to these terms and the Solicitors advised me that it would be well to do so. I shall be glad therefore to know if the Standing Committee approve of this course.

As regards the case of the Inspector of Stores I shall of course deal with him in a suitable manner, and as regards the Contractors themselves, this matter will of course be borne in mind should they in future tender for any other Municipal contract.

Arrangements are being made to place the Stores Department on a satisfactory footing.

4. The defendant, by publication of the said libel, falsely imputed to the plaintiffs' misconduct and dishonesty in the conduct of their business and that they had not satisfactorily carried out their said contract with the Municipality and that they were willing to pay a large sum by way of penalty to the Municipality in consequence of such unsatisfactory performance, dishonesty and bad conduct.

5. The plaintiffs by reason of the said false and malicious libel have been greatly prejudiced and injured in their reputation, credit and business. The plaintiffs will rely upon the correspondence hereto annexed.

The plaintiffs pray judgment against the defendant for Rs. 25,000 as damages and their costs in the suit.

(Sd.) OOMER JAMAL.

Colaba Causeway, 16th February, 1898.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay.

SIR,—For over five weeks now your Chief Accountant has withheld the payment of our bills amounting to over Rs. 22,000, and this on without a single word of explanation. During this period he has on several occasions promised to pay our agents on stated days, and when our agent called on these dates he was put off with fresh promises. By our monies being withheld we are put to severe losses, particularly as the Money Market is very tight. Under these circumstances we write to ask that you will be pleased to direct the immediate payment of the monies due to us. We appeal to you on the subject as we have reason to believe that we are not meeting with fair treatment.

If there is any occasion whatever to retain for a period any part of our monies as security, we point out that your Account nt holds Rs. 6,500 belonging to us as a deposit and independently of that fact we suppose you will consider us to be sufficiently able to meet any legal liabilities for which we may be found liable.

Solicit ing your early attention to this matter,

Your Obedient Servants,

(Sd.) LEOPOLD & CO.

30, Esplanade Road, Bombay, 16th February, 1898.

Messrs. Leopold & Co., Colaba.

SIRS,—We have been consulted by the Municipal Commissioner in reference to certain serious matters which have been brought to his notice in connection with our contracts for the supply of disinfectants to the Municipality and to the Plague Committee.

It appears that the supplies of carbolic acid powder were habitually short in weight, and that the payments you have from time to time received on the assumption that each case contained 200lbs. net weight of powder have in consequence been very largely in excess of the powder actually supplied.

It further appears that some of the carbolic acid which you have supplied under these contracts contains a very large proportion of impurities (chiefly coal tar oils.)

Before advising the Commissioner finally as to the course which he should adopt under the circumstances, we think it right to enquire if you desire to offer any explanation. Yours Obediently.

(Sd.) CRAWFORD BURDER & Co.

Colaba Causeway, 16th February, 1898, 6 p.m.

Messrs. Crawford Burder & Co.

SIRS,—We are in receipt of your letter of date, which has just reached us (5 p.m.) and hasten to reply to it without delay.

We emphatically deny the statement that the supplies of Carbolic Acid Powder were habitually short in weight and that we have received payments in excess of the value of powder actually supplied.

As a matter of fact we have supplied to the Municipality the actual weight of powder we have been ordered, though not always in boxes containing 200 lbs. net. Sometimes the boxes have contained 200 lbs. of powder, sometimes under 200 lbs., and sometimes over that weight; but in all cases have we given the nett weight of powder indented for. These facts will not be denied, for the Municipal Storekeeper cannot but admit that to make up the weight indented for we supplied him with 136 boxes of powder over and above the number indented for. This is quite inconsistent with any desire on our part to gain any advantage over the Municipality by supplying short weight.

With reference to the supply to the Plague Committee, we are not yet aware of any short delivery, for no complaint has reached us from them regarding shortage. Here again we would state that the boxes were not of uniform weight.

Our calculations were not based purely upon the number of boxes supplied, but upon the net weight of powder they contained. The basa of the powder before the acid was added to it was carefully weighed. The powder when ready was put into the number of boxes which according to the 200 lbs. per box should have contained the powder manufactured. We are not prepared to state that each individual box contained 200 lbs net of powder, but we assert that the net weight of powder supplied was the weight indented for and nothing short. The difference in the weight in each box arose partly by reason of pressure of work and partly from the hurried manner in which the workmen entrusted with the work of filling in the boxes discharged their duties.

With reference to the 3rd para of your letter under reply we beg to state that we have imported over 20,000 gallons of carbolic acid 98 per cent. direct from Dussek Bros., London, in hermitically sealed 5-gallon drums and that the acid supplied to the Municipality and Plague Committee was entirely from this supply. We mantain that the acid supplied by us was of a superior quality and free from such impurities as pointed out in your letter under reply. We challenge an analysis by the Chemical Analyser to Government of the acid supplied by us. The Chemical Analyser to Government alone, according to the terms of our contract, has to decide on the quality of our acid and so far as we know he has never adversely reported on the quality of our acid.

We have to thank you, which we hereby do, for having given us an opportunity of explaining these matters and in doing so beg to point out that we are astonished that this is the first intimation that has yet reached us either as to shortage or as to the inferior quality of the acid supplied. We cannot understand how the alleged shortage would have escaped the notice of the Municipality during the twelve months of our contrat, or any portion of that period, or how the alleged inferiority of the acid suplied escaped detection during that period.

In conclusion, we regret to point out that your letter under reply is so generally worded as not to leave us room to meet or disprove any specific instance of alleged shortage, or alleged inferiority in our acid supply. We are, and will always be, prepared to prove the accuracy and truth of our statements herein before contained and would be glad of an opportunity to be able to do so.—We are, Sirs, Yours obediently.

(Sd.) LEOPOLD & Co.

Bombay, 21st February, 1898.

Messrs. Leopold and Company, Colaba Causeway.

SIRS,—Your letter dated the 16th instant, has been carefully considered and we are instructed to inform you in reply that, having regard to undoubted facts which are before him, the Municipal Commissioner is satisfied that there has been considerable shortage in the weight of carbolic acid powder supplied both to the Municipality and to the Plague Committee, and also that carbolic Acid, or so-called carbolic acid of the most inferior and impure description, has been supplied by you.

Under the circumstances there must be an adjustment, and we are instructed to say that your deposit will be held as forfeited unless you supply 300 additional boxes of approved powder of 200 lbs. net weight each and agree to replace in full the number of drums of carbolic acid fluid supplied to No. 2 Plague District on the latest requisition made on you for that district, making no charge for the quantity already consumed from the quantity so supplied.—Yours obediently,

(Sd.) CRAWFORD BURDER AND Co.

23rd February, 1898.

Messrs. Crawford Burder and Co.

SIRS,—We acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st inst. We are thankful to you for your letter under reply we beg to state that we have imported over 20,000 gallons of carbolic acid 98 per cent. direct from Dussek Bros., London, in hermitically sealed 5-gallon drums and that the acid supplied to the Municipality and Plague Committee was entirely from this supply. We mantain that the acid supplied by us was of a superior quality and free from such impurities as pointed out in your letter under reply. We challenge an analysis by the Chemical Analyser to Government of the acid supplied by us. The Chemical Analyser to Government alone, according to the terms of our contract, has to decide on the quality of our acid and so far as we know he has never adversely reported on the quality of our acid.

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In conclusion, we regret to point out that your letter under reply is so generally worded as not to leave us room to meet or disprove any specific instance of alleged shortage, or alleged inferiority in our acid supply. We are, and will always be, prepared to prove the accuracy and truth of our statements herein before contained and would be glad of an opportunity to be able to do so.—We are, Sirs, Yours obediently.

(Sd.) LEOPOLD & Co.

Bombay, 21st February, 1898.

Messrs. Leopold and Company, Colaba Causeway.

SIRS,—Your letter dated the 16th instant, has been carefully considered and we are instructed to inform you in reply that, having regard to undoubted facts which are before him, the Municipal Commissioner is satisfied that there has been considerable shortage in the weight of carbolic acid powder supplied both to the Municipality and to the Plague Committee, and also that carbolic Acid, or so-called carbolic acid of the most inferior and impure description, has been supplied by you.

Under the circumstances there must be an adjustment, and we are instructed to say that your deposit will be held as forfeited unless you supply 300 additional boxes of approved powder of 200 lbs. net weight each and agree to replace in full the number of drums of carbolic acid fluid supplied to No. 2 Plague District on the latest requisition made on you for that district, making no charge for the quantity already consumed from the quantity so supplied.—Yours obediently,

(Sd.) CRAWFORD BURDER AND Co.

23rd February, 1898.

Messrs. Crawford Burder & Co.

DEAR SIRS,—We are in receipt of your letter of the 25th inst. We regret that the Municipality should entertain in idea that we are not desirous of dealing with them with object of an adjustment, as appears clearly from their refusal to point out the data on which they ask for the adjustment.

The result is that we have had no opportunity either of showing that their data are incorrect or that the terms upon which they offer to come to an adjustment with us are unfair.

To show that in making the inquiries in our previous letters we have had no desire whatever to take any advantage over the Municipality and that we were, and are, anxious to terminate the unfortunate misunderstanding that has arisen though it be at a loss to ourselves, we have now to make the following offer to effect the adjustment. Without acknowledging that there has been any breach of contract on our part and without prejudice to our position, we offer to deliver to the Municipality at once, free of charges, carbolic acid as per our contract of the value of Rs. 3,000 in full settlement of all claims.

Our contract terminates this day and we are desirous of closing the dispute with the least possible delay.—Yours obediently,

(Sd.) LEOPOLD AND Co.

Bombay, 3rd March, 1898.

Messrs. Leopold and Co., Colaba Causeway.

SIRS,—In acknowledging receipt of your letter dated the 28th ultimo we beg to inform you that the Municipal Commissioner accepts the proposal therein contained for the compromise of the matter the subject of previous correspondence.

You should now arrange with the Chief Accountant, Municipality, for the delivery of the carbolic acid to the value of Rs. 3,000, and he will arrange in due course for the payment of your bills. Your deposit also will be returned to you when the acid has been supplied to the satisfaction of the Commissioner.—Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) CRAWFORD BURDER & Co.

Bombay, 6th April, 1898.

To the Editor and Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*.

SIR,—We are instructed by Messrs. Leopold and Co. to address you this letter.

In your issue of the 22nd ultimo you have published a letter from the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay, written for the information only of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation, under the heading "The late contract for the supply of Municipal disinfectants—Surprising Allegations." The said letter contained exparte aspersions and imputations against our clients and its publication by you, as aforesaid, was unwarranted and unjustifiable. Our clients were not present when the letter was read and had no opportunity to defend themselves against the aspersions and imputations therein contained, and the truth of which our clients deny, and have denied, in the correspondence with the Municipality and are prepared to prove to be false if occasion should require.

Our clients have ascertained that the letter was read before the members of the Standing Committee and discussed in camera after the reporters (including yours) were requested to leave the room and after they had done so. The letter was not intended to be published outside of the meeting and certainly not in a widely circulated paper like yours. Its publication by you nearly three weeks later on is an act of malice on your part.

Our clients are chemists and traders in a large way of business and have numerous constituents in Bombay and elsewhere, and by your having published the aspersions and imputations against them, which you had distinct notice were not intended to be published you have caused considerable damage to their reputation and business. We are instructed to adopt proceedings against you to vindicate our clients' position of which we give you notice.

If you have any explanation to offer on the subject we will be glad to consider the same.—We are, Sir, yours obediently,

ROUGHTON AND BYRNE,
Solicitors, High Court.

Bombay, 11th April, 1898.

Messrs. Roughton and Byrne, Solicitors, High Court, Bombay.

SIRS,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of 6th instant and to say that your clients have not informed you correctly.—Yours faithfully,

GRATTAN GEARY, Proprietor.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE PARSONS and the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE RANADE.)

MURDER OF A PATEL.

IMPERATRIX VS. MOHIDEEN HAZRAT AND ALLANADIN HAZRAT.

THIS was an appeal from a decision of Mr. T. Walker, Sessions Judge of Dharwar, who, in March last, convicted the accused of murder and sentenced them to death.

The two accused, brothers, were charged with murdering Abdul Alikhan, patel of Niralgi, taluka Kacagji. The deceased's wife stated that he was a simpleton, while another person said he was of ordinary intelligence. He had officiated as patel for nine months and had mortgaged his land to the accused for twenty years. These two men lived in the same house with him and his wife, and it appeared in evidence that the second accused was her paramour. Deceased appeared to have turned them out of the house altogether; but as the Sessions Judge remarked, the position was complicated by the mortgage the accused brothers held over his land; and he afterwards allowed them to come back and occupy a separate room in the house. On the night of the 9th February last, in the month of Ramzan, the accused and his wife were sleeping in one room; the two accused in another; and two Walikars named Govind and Tirka also slept at the house. About 2 o'clock in the morning, the deceased and his wife got up and began to cook their food, and the two accused in the next room did the same, as all good Mahomedans do during the month of Ramzan. The deceased had his smoke, passed out his pipe to Tirka, who smoked and returned it, and then went away. Govinda also went away at the same time, and the only people in the house were deceased and his wife, and the two accused brothers. Tirka returned about sunrise and asked for the deceased. His wife Hashimbi said he had gone out very early in the morning and had not returned. About 9 a. m. the rumour got about that the deceased was missing. On the afternoon of the following day, the 10th February, Hashimbi went to the Kulkarni and complained that her husband was missing, and that she was uneasy, as his brother and others of the family had formerly disappeared. On the day or two later, Constable Baiajee found the body of the deceased in the river, tied up in a handkerchief, in a sitting posture, and the throat cut. That a murder had been committed was clear, and enquiries were set on foot. An inquest was held, and the body was sent to Haveri. The chief constable noticed that nobody accompanied the body, and his suspicions were aroused regarding the deceased's wife and the inmates of the house. He accordingly waited till 2 a.m. on the morning of the 13th February, and suddenly marched upon the house. The result justified his expectation. In the same room with Hashimbi, cowering in a corner, naked except for a sheet hastily thrown over him, was the second accused. Both confessed they had been lying under one sheet. The first accused and Hashimbi denied that the first accused had been in the house on the fatal night. Hashimbi afterwards made a long statement, accusing the two accused of having burst into her room early on the morning of the 10th, knocked her husband down, when the first accused cut his throat, and then they carried the body out of the house towards the river. The statement was corroborated in several particulars. Blood was found at the back door and in the verandah, and where the deceased was killed the floor was covered with fresh cowdung. A man named Latifshan stated that, on his way to the river very early, on the morning of the 10th February, he had met the two accused returning, and they were remarked how early they had got up. Hashimbi produced a blood-stained knife from an open box. The Sessions Judge had no doubt that the evidence of Hashimbi was true. She at first concealed the matter, being afraid as she said, that accused would cut her throat too, and only suggested that her husband's enimies Chandamya and others might have done it. Differing from both assessors, the Sessions Judge convicted the two accused of the murder, and being unable to make any distinction of guilt between them, sentenced them both to death.

Their lordships, on a consideration of all the circumstances, rejected the appeal and confirmed the sentences of death.

THE JAMSETJEE NUSSERWANJI PETIT COLABA LIBRARY.

THE annual general meeting of this library was held in its rooms on the 13th instant, Mr. J Jeebhoy Framjee Petit presiding. Mr. J. S. Cola, the honorary secretary and treasurer, read the report for the two years, 1895 and 1897, which referred to the deaths of two of its trustees and members of the managing committee, viz., Mr. Byramji Rustomji Dalal and Mr. Hormasji Nowrajii Coopar. As the latter gentleman paid Rs.40 annually towards its expenses, his loss is greatly felt by this poor library. During the two years a further sum of Rs. 500 in Government Promissory notes was vested in the library by Mr. Jejeebhoy Framjee Petit to perpetuate the name of his father. It was also presented with a handsome set of books consisting of 24 volumes of the Encyclopedia Britanica and the Sacred Books of the East Series on Zoroastrian religion,—with a cupboard, of a total cost of Rs. 550, to perpetuate the name of the late Mr. Byramji Rustomji Dalal. During these two years 44 names stood on the rolls of the library, the daily average attendance of members being 12, and the monthly average issue of books and periodicals 53. The total income during the two years was Rs. 1,328-11-0, made up of interest, subscriptions, and donations, and the total expenditure, Rs. 1,000-0-11, leaving a balance of Rs. 328-10-11. The Trust Fund now amounts to Rs. 9,500. During these two years 161 books were purchased and presented, the chief donors being Mr. Jehangir Rustomji Kharas, Mr. Dadabhoy Merwanji Dalal, the Trustees of the Parsee Punchayat, and Bai Dinbai Nusserwanji Patit. There are at present altogether 1,481 books. The report concluded by thanking these donors. Resolutions were passed adopting the committee's report and the audited accounts for 1896 and 1897; electing a new managing committee; appointing Mr. Rustomji Eduji Mistry an auditor for the two years 1898 and 1899, and thanking the auditor, the retiring committee, and the secretary. The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

HOME REMITTANCES.

THE following is the Weekly Memorandum of Remittances to the Home Treasury by means of Council Bills of the 16th April, 898:—

	£
Amount to be remitted during 1898-99	16,000,000
Remitted from 1st April 1898 to 9th April, 1898	498,200
Balance to be remitted from 10th April 1898 to 31st March 1899	15,501,800

SCENE: A road-side station: 4 30 a. m: exhausted traveller waiting for the train, which is as usual late. Enter a railway official, nationality presumably Bengalee. The Baboo: Sir, who in your opinion was the greatest philosopher the world ever saw? Exhausted Traveller: Really, Baboo, at this time of the morning, my brain is powerless to answer so subtle an inquiry: how about Aristotle or Plato? Baboo proceeds to give a list of names learnt at College, ending with Kant E. T.: Take your choice, Baboo: to each era its own philosopher. Baboo: Well, Sir, have you read Mr. Justice M—h—d's judgments? Very learned, Sir: much more learned than those of Sir J. E. Exhausted Traveller in a state of collapse: Really, Baboo, I must ask to be excused attempting any comparison between such legal luminaries, till I've had some chota haziri? Exit Baboo with a very poor opinion of the sahib's mental calibre.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO or Pearl Dentifrice whitens the teeth, prevents and arrests decay, and sweetens the breath; is free from any acid or gritty ingredients and being most beautifully perfumed, it is the most delightful tooth powder in use. Sold by Chemists and Stores. Ask for Rowland's Odonto, of 20, Hatton Garden, London, and avoid worthless and noxious imitations.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON TUESDAY, THE 19TH OF APRIL, 1898.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calicut standard, reduced to the same temperature 32° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity of Lat. 15.

2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.

3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shed with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a. m.

4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

STATIONS.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Rate per hour.	Temperature in Shade. Maximum of past 24 hours.	Temperature in Shade. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity, 8 A.M.	Rainfall. Past 24 hours.	Rainfall. Since 1st Nov. to date.	Variation, 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	29·709	E	2	101·6	71·6	43	...	4·54	+0·85
Simla	29·726	WSW	7	103·3	68·3	17	...	1·28	−0·91
Delhi	29·767	Calm	3	98·2	74·9	42	...	2·94	+0·06
Agra	29·737	NE	6	103·0	77·9	41	...	2·71	+1·34
Cawnpore	29·738	ESE	7	102·4	78·1	58	...	1·47	...
Allahabad	29·733	ENE	7	102·6	77·4	45	...	2·39	+0·35
Jhansi	29·735	NE	4	97·1	79·7	52	...	2·69	+0·40
Jacobabad	29·671	NW	3	112·2	70·1	46	...	0·43	−0·79
Karachi	29·736	W	9	93·4	76·0	70	...	0·43	−1·33
Jeypore	29·771	ENE	5	104·6	74·0	30	...	0·56	−1·09
Ajmere	29·773	NE	3	102·9	71·1	34	...	0·22	−1·15
Deesa	29·758	W	6	111·4	73·5	42	...	0·16	−0·28
Ahmedabad	29·715	W	3	102·3	76·1	55	...	0·78	...
Bhuj	29·754	W	12	108·8	78·9	6	...	0·13	−0·46
Rajkot	29·776	W	9	107·9	69·4	37	...	0·30	−0·25
Ghadechi	29·772	SW	12	108·6	77·3	36	...	0·29	...
Veraval	29·77.	ESE	7	95·1	74·3	80	...	0·48	...
Neemuch	29·733	NE	5	106·9	74·6	14	...	0·24	−0·49
Indore	29·749	SSW	2	105·0	77·1	57	...	0·56	−0·48
Sangor	29·722	WSW	8	102·8	75·1	33	...	1·46	−1·12
Jubulpore	29·739	SSW	6	103·0	69·1	40	0·05	3·41	+0·70
Hoshangabad	29·751	Calm	3	105·6	74·2	40	...	0·50	−1·46
Khandwa	29·753	W	8	106·7	79·1	36	...	0·09	−1·29
Raipur	29·794	Calm	5	96·4	77·6	49	...	1·72	−0·31
Nagpur	29·798	Calm	7	94·2	79·1	69	...	3·85	+0·76
Amraoti	29·810	WSW	11	102·6	69·8	57	0·06	0·77	−1·64
Akola	29·819	Calm	10	105·7	65·8	55	0·16	0·33	−2·56
Surat	29·782	S	10	92·6	77·1	74	...	1·88	+1·43
Malegaon	29·779	SSW	9	105·7	73·1	45	...	0·10	−1·16
Dhulia	29·813	N	10	89·1	72·3	73	...	0·17	−0·73
Poona	29·8.8	NE	14	102·5	68·4	63	...	0·38	−1·62
Ahmednagar	29·802	WSW	8	102·3	71·4	58	...	0·02	...
Aurangabad	29·790	WSW	5	105·5	69·7	31	fr.	0·07	...
Sholapur	29·803	ESE	10	97·2	75·0	37	...	0·27	−2·24
Ratnagiri	29·809	Calm	6	96·4	79·8	70	...	0·52	−0·35
Belgaum	29·816	Calm	12	99·2	68·8	55	...	2·81	−0·87
Goa	29·820	E	7	91·3	76·6	68	...	3·09

SALES BY AUCTION.

BENNETT AND COMPANY.
No. 22. APOLLO STREET.

On SATURDAY, the 23rd instant, Messrs. BENNETT and Co, will sell by Public Auction, at their Rooms, a quantity of grey and coloured piece-goods, etc., also magic lantern with slides, gas jet, acetylene gas generator, Columbia graphophone and graphophone records, etc., etc.

AT 1-30 P.M.

1 strong glass-fronted miniature, brougham, in good order.
1 handsome strong victoria suitable for single or pair.
1 chesnunt Arab, 14 hands, quiet in harness and saddle.
1 bay waler, 15¾ hands, quiet in harness and saddle.
1 brown Arab pony, goes well in harness.
1 brown waler mare, 14 2, 6 years, goes well in saddle and harness.

On MONDAY, the 25th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at Pali Hill, Bandora, the valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood dining, drawing, and bedroom furniture, rich crockery and glassware, D. B. C. F. hammerless gun, musical box, iron safe, strong-built victoria, handsome bay waler and harness, ice-box standing table lamps, large photographic camera, 8-inch by 5 inch, small tent, garden plants in tubs and pots, etc., the property of F. A. LITTLE, Esq., Solicitor to Government, leaving India.

Catalogues will be published and the property is on view

The property of a gentleman.—1 pony trap with pony and harness.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On WEDNESDAY, the 27th inst. at 1 p.m., Messrs CRAWFORD & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction at No. 2, Warden Road, Breach Candy, near the Framjee Hall, the valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood household furniture, glassware and crockery, brass bedstead, bay Arab horse, fine trotter, pneumatic bicycle, table ornaments, wind proof lamps, pictures etc., the property of ABDOOLA HOOSEIN, Esq. proceeding to England.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view 3 days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE

On THURSDAY, the 28th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at the Gold Mohur Castella Bridge, the whole of the well-kept furniture of Mrs. Peters, consisting of teak and blackwood djaing, drawing and bedroom furniture, glassware and crockery, lamps, pictures, carpets, etc.

The above will be on view 3 days before the table,

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On FRIDAY, the 29th inst., at 2 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at the Sea View Terrace, Woolchouse Road, Middle Colaba, the handsome teak and blackwood household furniture crockery, Dilmar's chairs, ladie's bicycle by Bagshaw Bros., London, gent's "Cosmos" bicycle both in perfect order and nearly new, pictures, lamps, fancy door curtains, flower pots, pier glass, etc., the property of R. E. WHITTLE, Esq., proceeding to England.

The property will be on view 3 days before the sale.

On SATURDAY, the 30th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs CRAWFORD & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Middle Colaba, opposite the Jute Mill, the handsome blackwood and teakwood household furniture, plated ware, glassware and crockery, piano, windproof lamps, table ornaments, pictures, flower pots, carpets, etc, the property of C. PHILLIPS, Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view 3 days before the sale.

SALE OF LANDED PROPERTY AT MATOONGA. MHARWADA, NEAR THE RAILWAY STATION.

On SATURDAY, the 30th instant, at 4 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the premises, by order of Mr. Gopal Pandoorang Bhandaray, the Administrator of the estate of the late Anpoornabai, wife of Dattaram Pandoorang Bhandaray, the mortgagee, and on account and at the risk of Gowria Raghoo Pandhary, in pursuance of the power of sale given in the indenture of mortgage, dated the 23rd day of July, 1896, the following landed property, viz.:—

All that piece or parcel of land or ground, with the messuage, tenement, or dwelling-house standing thereon, situate and being near the Mujad Bunder, in Cazee Syad Street, without the Fort, and in the registration sub-district formerly of Mandvi, and now of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 232 square yards or thereabouts, assessed by the Collector of Assessment formerly under No. 35 and now under Ward B No. 1355, street No. 136-40, and by the Collector of Land Revenue under old No. 710, new No. 6424, old Survey No. 519, and new Survey No. 2383, and bounded as follows, that is to say, on or towards the east by the said Cazee Syed Street, on or towards the west by a sweepers passage, on or towards the north by the house of Shri Nathji Maharaj, and on or towards the south by the house of Nagha Jadhavji.

For further particulars, and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Matabhai and Jamistram, solicitors, at their office at No. 9, Bell Lane, Fort, or to the undersigned.

On SATURDAY, the 23rd instant, at 2 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at Pali Hill, Bandora, the valuable blackwood and teakwood dining, drawing, and bedroom furniture, rich crockery and glassware, D. B. C. F. hammerless gun, musical box, iron safe, strong-built victoria, handsome bay waler and harness, ice-box standing table lamps, large photographic camera, 8-inch by 5 inch, small tent, garden plants in tubs and pots, etc., the property of F. A. LITTLE, Esq., Solicitor to Government, leaving India.

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All that piece or parcel of land or ground, with the messuage or dwelling house standing thereon, situate without the Fort of Bombay, at Matoonga, Mharwada, in the Registration sub-district of Bombay, formerly as well as now in the occupation of several tenants of the said mortgagor, assessed by the Municipality under F Ward No. 7464 and street No. 1031, containing by admeasurement 122 square yards or thereabouts, and bounded on the east by a passage, on the west by Inami vacant land, on the north by a passage and beyond that by the house of Babajee Aitwar, and on the south by passage and beyond that by the house of Pandhary Abdoolally.

For further particulars and conditions of sale application may be made to the undersigned.

CRAWFORD & CO.

Bombay, 20th April, 1898.

MENESSE AND COMPANY,
No. 35, HUMMUM STREET.

AUCTION SALE OF AUSTRALIAN APPLES.

TO-MORROW, THURSDAY, the 21st instant, at 2 p.m. Messrs. MENESSE and Co. will sell by Public Auction in the Prince's Dock, Shed, on account of the concerned landed, ex. s. s. Shannon, transhipped from s. s. China.

About 2,000 cases Australian apples,

AUCTION SALE OF HESSIANS.

On FRIDAY the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m., Messrs MENESSE & Co., will sell by Public Auction at Carnac Bunder by order of Messrs. Birkmyre Brothers, and on account and risk of the undermentioned parties the following goods.

On account and risk of Dyal Chullanjee—
10 bales Hessians Hastings Mill 50 by 9 1-2 September shipment loaded by ex s s "Nadir."

On account and risk of Soorjee Comersey—
10 bales Hessians, Hastings Mill, 50 by 9 1-2 September shipment ex s s Nadir.

On account and risk of Ramjee Peraz—
9 bales Hessians, Hastings Mill, 50 by 9 1-2, September shipment ex s s Nadir.
1 bale Hessians, Hastings Mill, 50 by 9 1-2, September shipment, ex s s Noorani.

AUCTION SALE OF HESSIANS.

On SATURDAY the 23rd inst. at 3 p.m., Messrs MENESSE and Co., will sell by Public Auction at Carnac Bunder by order of Marwaree Ramgopal Mahadhev Persad on iaccount and risk of the undermentioned parties the following goods;—

On account and risk of Toolsidass Dwarkadass—
10 Bales Hessians 40 by 8 Any Mill January shipment.
10 " " 40 by 8 " February shipment.

On account and risk of Moorjee Motoo—
10 bales Hessians 50 by 10 Any Mill, February shipment.

On account and risk of Puddumsey Veerjee—
10 bales Hessians, 50 by 10, Any Mill, February shipment.

On account and risk of Hurrilal Ambydass—
3 bales Hessians 45 by 11 Any Mill, January shipment.
3 " " 45 by 11 " February shipment.

MENESSE & CO.

Bombay, 20th April, 1898.

EDUCATION IN GERMANY.

HOME in the family of Dr. Gloël for one or two boys, attending the Royal College (Gymnasium) in Weel. Residence in healthy situation surrounded by Private Park. Terms £ 75 per year.

Application to

Dr. GLOEL
Landhaus Birkenfeld,
Weel-am-Rhein,
Germany.

SINGER'S Sewing Machines. We don't care for the Outward Appearance. We care for the Workmanship. Our Name is dearer to us. Our Machines are with the latest improvements. Repairs done to all the Machines. Price Lists free. SINGER Co., Fort, Bombay.

LAWRENCE AND MAYO.
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS
To the Principal Ophthalmic Surgeons in the East.
BY APPOINTMENT
To H. E. the EARL of ELGIN & KINCARDINE
Viceroy and Governor-General of India;
H. E. Sir G. S. WHITE,
Commander-in-Chief in India;
LORD WENLOCK and LORD ROBERTS.
OFFICES IN INDIA:
CALCUTTA. BOMBAY. MADRAS.
HEAD OFFICES:
67 and 69, Chancery Lane, London.
Catalogues of Binoculars, Telescopes, and Microscopes free on application.

SCHIEDMAYER AND SOEHNE TUTTGART

Are the only PIANOFORTES of that name, which have a WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION.

The best Piano for the Climate of India.

Have been in use in India over 50 years.

SOLE AGENTS IN BOMBAY:—

MARCKS AND CO., LIMITED.

THE ASSOCIATED VINEYARD CALTIVATORS CO.'S

BEEHIVE BRANDY.

THIS BRANDY which is much approved in Great Britian, America, and Australia, has scored further SUCCESS by being just Awarded

SPECIAL FIRST PRIZE & GOLD MEDAL,
AT THE
BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION.

Rs. 2-4 per Bottle.

THACKER & Co., Ld., BOMBAY.

ENGRAVERS, DIE-SINKERS, RELIEF STAMPERS, COPPER-PLATE PRINTERS,

YOUR CREST OR MONOGRAM, Rs. 20.

ARTISTICALLY engraved on Steel and Embossed in Color on 2 Boxes (240 sheets) of Note Paper and 2 Boxes of Envelopes for Twenty Rupees.

YOUR VISITING CARD.

	Rs. a.
100 Gentlemen's Cards, one line with Plate	3 0
100 Ladies' Cards, one line with Plate	4 0

Other lines, such as Club Address and Regiment charges Re. 1 per line extra.

DR. F. B. SEERVAI,

SURGEON DENTIST,

No. 3, HORNBY ROW,

Opposite the Bombay General Post Office.

THE
NILGIRI TEA & COFFEE
TRADING COMPANY,

(No. 3 Hummum Street, Fort, Bombay.)

SOLICITS COMPARISON AND TRIAL IN QUALITY AND PRICES OF TH

NILGIRI TUDOR HALL TEAS
AND
WATERFALL COFFEES

RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE ESTATE and highly appreciated by connoisseurs for FLAVOUR, COLOUR AND TASTE.

PRICES REMARKABLY MODERATE.

TEAS—(in air-tight 1 lb. Square Tin)
Rs. 1-4, 1-2, 1-0, 0-12, also in 1-4 and 1-2 lb. lead packets.

WATERFALL'S FRENCH COFFEES,
1-4 lb. tin 5 as, 1-2 lb. tin 9 as., 1 lb. tin Re. 1.

HANDSOME DISCOUNT TO MERCHANTS.

Prices of loose tea-chests and whole coffee on application.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,
GIRGAUM VETERINARY AND
COMMISSION STABLES,

OLDEST ESTABLISHED FIRM IN BOMBAY.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for local and Up-country constituents. Horses shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single, (Rs. 15), and doubleHarness (Rs.30), and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Waler's Charges extra. Horses Standing on Commission Sale, or for treatment—

	Rs. a.
At Livery, including Syce per mensem Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	M 0
Examination and Certificate	10 0
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5 0

Special mixtures Crushed Oats, Bran, etc., supplied.

BOMBAY PLAGUE RELIEF FUND.
AN APPEAL.

THE most acute distress and want are now prevailing in the city owing to the ravages of the plague.

In many instances all the bread-winners of families have been cut off and only helpless women and little children remain. The effects of the plague from this point of view are far more disastrous than those of famine.

A fund has accordingly been opened with a view to supplying those in want with money, food or clothing, as the case may be, and donations are earnestly solicited.

Contributions may be forwarded to the Municipal Commissioner, or Mr. Ghellabhai Haridas, Bank of Bombay, who has kindly consented to act as treasurer to the fund, the distribution of which will be supervised by Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Weir and Mr. J. Leask, in consultation with the Commissioner.

P. C. H. SNOW,
Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.

WIESBADEN, GERMANY,
PENSION VILLA FRANK,
ABEGGSTRASSE, 3.

WELL FURNISHED ROOMS excellent Table, Baths, thermal and other, House stands on its own grounds. Within three minutes' walk of Kurhaus. moderate Prices. Arrangements made with Families, for Summer or Winter season.

NOTES:
INDIAN LAND REVENUE,
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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 19.

TELEGRAPHIC Transfers to the extent of 3 lakhs were allotted yesterday on Calcutta, at 1s. 4 1-16d. The Exchange Banks' buying rate on India at 30 days' sight was unaltered at 1s. 3 7-16d.

Consols advanced 1-8 per cent. in London to 110 3-4. French Rentes were unchanged at 102 1-4; Indian Sterling Loan at 113; and 3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Securities at £61 3-16; but Paris Exchange on London was 1-2 centime higher, at 25·34 1-2 fcs. Bar Silver was 1-16d. dearer, at 25 15-16d. per oz., and 1-8 cent in New York at 56 1-8 cents per oz., demand Exchange on London remaining at 48·83 1-4 dollars. About £150,000 was paid in Gold into the Bank of England.

Yellow Guzerat Rapeseed was quoted at 40s. per 416 lbs., April-May shipment, to Havre, Antwerp and Dunkirk, buyers via the Canal, market firm in tone; Yellow Cawnpore Rapeseed, at 38 1-2s. per 416 lbs., April-May shipment, to Antwerp, sellers via the Canal, in a firm market; Brown Rapeseed, at 35 1-4s. per 416 lbs., same shipment, to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, business done via the Canal, tone of the market firm; Linseed, at 36 1-2s. per 416 lbs., some shipment, to Dunkirk, sellers via the Canal, market firm.

In Liverpool, Spot Mid.-Americans Cotton was 1-32d. higher in price, at 3 1-2d. per lb., and Egyptian Fair Brown 1-16d. at 4d. per lb. American Arrivals were unchanged in all positions. The market closed firm, Surats firm, Arrivals quiet. The day's Sales were 15,000 bales, and the Imports amounted to that figure also. The Manchester market closed firm.

Ready Mid.-Uplands declined 1-16 cent in New York, to 6 1-4 cents per lb.; July and October Futures continued at 6·12 cents per lb. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 16,000 bales; and the arriwals to date compare as follows with those in 1897 and 1896:—

	1898.	1897.	1896
Monday's Receipts ...	16,000	10,000	10,000
Two days' do. ...	23,000	15,000	16,000
Since 1st Sept. ...	8,037,000	6,355,000	4,897,000

In our local market for this staple a moderate business has been done to-day.. Exporters bought 1,100 bales, and the mills 1,300 bales; total 2,400 bales. The tone of the market is steady.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay on Sunday and yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	17,520 bales.
Wheat	57,002 cwts.
Linseed	9,952 "
Rapeseed	33,057 "
Gingellyseed	6,234 "
Poppyseed	1,402 "
Castorseed	2,837 "
Rice	12,016 "

EXCHANGE.—Rates opened this morning at 1s. 4 3-32d. for Bank Demand, 1s. 4 1-32d. for Telegraphic, and 1s, 4 5-16d. for three months' sight Credits. A small amount was placed at the first named rate, after which 1s. 4 1-16d. was the best available. There was only a small enquiry for Bank Paper, but a fair supply of Merchants' Bills, a fair amount of which were placed at the opening rate. Later on 1s. 4 11-32d. was the best rate available, at which no business was reported, the market closing firm as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 4 1-16d. per rupee.
" Telegraphic	1s. 4 1-32d. "
Credits 3 months' sight...	1s. 4 11-32d. "
Francs	172 1-2 "

GOVERNMENT PAPER continues dull in tone, at 93 1-8 and 93 7-16 for 3½ per Cents, for Money and Account, respectively, with 87 for Threes.

SHARES.—Prices show a downward tendency.

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the Statement of the Affairs of the Bank of Bengal, for the week ending 13th April, 1898, as compared with the Statement of 6th April, 1898:—

LIABILITIES.	April 5. Rs.	A.	P.	April 13. Rs.	A.	P.
Capital paid up	2,00,00,000	0	0	2,00,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	83,50,000	0	0	83,50,000	0	0
Public Deposits, &c.	1,67,67,795	12	4	1,75,93,296	8	0
Other Deposits, &c.	4,31,17,882	12	11	4,21,53,498	13	6
Bank Post Bills, &c.	4 89 027	11	11	3,81,595	4	4
Sundries	25,25,198	9	2	26,44,204	8	4
	Rs. 9,18,49,874	14	4	9,11,22,693	2	2

ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Government Securities	31,79,946	0	0	31,12,887	0	0
Other authorised Investms.	75,59,340	0	0	75,00,340	0	0
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities	2,24,05,103	10	4	2,25,33,019	13	2
Accounts of Credit do.	2,47,37,122	14	4	2,46,64,787	3	2
Bills Discounted, &c.	1,24,45,585	0	2	1,24,12,519	0	10
Balances with other Banks	8,69,997	8	8	9,52,875	3	8
Bullion	2,857	10	8	2,925	11	8
Dead Stock	13,12,838	7	4	13,14,294	4	8
Stamps	11,134	4	3	10,260	6	0
Sundries	12,05,757	14	3	12,64,960	2	2
Cash, &c., at Head Office	77,63,453	11	4	65,48,781	7	3
Do. at Branches	1,03,56,738	7	0	1,03,01,242	14	2
	Rs. 9,18,49,874	14	4	9,11,22,693	2	2

The following is the Bank's Memorandum of Liabilities and Assets up to 13th April, 1898.

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Treasury Balance at Head Office	14,24,087	Inc.
Do. at Branches	11,98,475	Dec.
Other Deposits	9,64,361	do.
Post Bills	1,07,432	do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	1,25,559	Dec.
Loans	1,30,916	Inc.
Accounts of Credit	1,27,655	do.
Mercantile Bills	33,085	Dec.
Cash at Head Office	12,14,672	do.
Cash at Branches	2,45,104	Inc.

RAJPUTANA-MALWA RAILWAY.

(Includes the Rajputana, Holkar, Scindia-Neemuch, Rewari-Ferozepore and Cawnpore-Achnera State Railways).

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 26th March 1898, on 1,873·93 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts. Rs.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts. Rs.	Other Earnings [estimated.] Rs.	Total Earnings. Rs.
Total traffic for the week	1,02,000	2,92,000	4,000	3,98,000
Or per mile of Railway	61	175	2	238
For previous nine weeks of half-year.	10,29,461	32,17,117	52,213	42,98,824
Total for 12 weeks...	11,31,461	35,09,117	56,243	46,96,824
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,16,620	2,08,939	4,778	3,30,337
Per mile of Ry. do.	69	125	3	197
Total to corresponding date do.	14,02,537	31,54,488	72,482	46,39,507

Increase for the week ..... Rs. 67,613
Ditto to date ..... " 57,317

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 2nd April, 1898, on 461 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts. Rs.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts. Rs.	Other Earnings [estimated.] Rs.	Total Earnings. Rs.
Total traffic for the week	59,000	3,19,000	4,000	3,73,000
Or per mile of Railway	128	672	9	809
For previous 13 weeks of half-year.	6,42,090	23,93,790	56,691	30,97,571
Total for 13 weeks...	7,01,020	27,08,790	60,691	34 70,571
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	80,689	2,02,982	3,566	2,87,231
Per mile of Ry do.	175	440	8	623
Total to corresponding date do.	11,71,893	24,70,462	59,153	37 01,505

Increase for the week ..... Rs. 85,769
Decrease to date ..... " 2,30,934

GOLD AND SILVER.

CALCUTTA, 6TH JANUARY, 1898.

THE following are Imports and Exports of Gold and Silve during the official year 1897-98:—

	In the month of November 1897. GOLD. Rs.	SILVER. Rs.	TOTAL. Rs.
Imports	30,31,918	81,79,305	1,15,11,223
Exports	26,07,773	37,07,300	63,15,073
Net Imports	4,24,145	47,72,005	51,96,150
To the end of the month of November 1897, Progressive.			
Imports	4,76,19,251	8,89,34,699	13,65,54,350
Exports	1,57,10,299	2,74,10,256	4,31,20,557
Net Imports	3,19,09,252	5,15,24,441	9,34,33,793

Silver received and coined in the Mints during the official year 1897-98.

COINS AND BULLION RECEIVED (ASSAY VALUE).

	Calcutta. Rs.	Bombay. Rs.	Total. Rs.
In the month of Nov. 1897	4,67,501	36,94,181*	41,61,782
To the end of the month of Nov. 1897, (Progressive)	14,89,741	3,98,18,494	4,14,09,235
COINED AND EXAMINED.			
In the month of Nov. 1897	4,38,004	37,82,300	42,00,304
To the month of the date of last year	16,10,969	3,91,86,258	4,07,98,227

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

MARRIAGES.

PAYNE—DuCASSE—April 13, at the Church of the Epiphany, Tezpur, Assam, by the Rev Sidney Endle, Rev Russell Payne, of Tezpur, Assam, to May DuCasse, widow of the late J. A. DuCasse, of Burgalaghur, Assam.

ROUSE—STEWART—April 11, at the Church of the Epiphany, Cuttack, by the Rev Cyril Price, Francis James Rouse, Asst Engr, B N Ry, to Edith Mabel, third daughter of the late Surgn-Major W D Stewart, I M S.

DEATH.

NOBLETTE—April 10, at her uncle's residence, Cawnpore, after a long and painful illness, Winnifred Jane, the dearly loved and ever-patient daughter of Mrs Noblette, aged 13 years and 8 months.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns, should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1898.

THE Jubilee earthquake in Assam which on the 12th June last, at five o'clock in the afternoon levelled at the first shock the administrative capital Shillong to the ground and desolated an immense region displacing river beds, destroying railways, roads and telegraphs, will not soon be forgotten either in that province or in India. Mr. H. Lutman-Johnson, late Commissioner of Assam, read a paper before the Indian section of the Society of Arts giving a graphic and deeply interesting account of that convulsion of the earth and its immediate results. Of no less value was the lucid epitome of all that has been ascertained by inquiry and suggested by similar experiences in other parts of the world, as to the exact nature of the "tremblement," the depth beneath surface at which it had its origin, and its possible or probable causes. On these points definite opinions must be deferred until the completion of the official inquiries ordered by Government. But much information has been collected and the general character of the earthquake, by far the most formidable and destructive of those that have visited Assam, is now pretty clearly determined. Probably the final report on the visitation will not give the first place to the cause assigned at the time by the Garos of the neighbouring hills, that the earthquake was ordered by the Queen, who not being satisfied with the manner in which the royal command had been carried out, issued orders for a more vigorous one, to be followed by a cyclone. The hill tribes had no doubt whatever that the Maharani has the power to make earthquakes at will. One man sent to the Commissioner for a parwana to forbid the hill behind his house from slipping down on his ground. The lecturer gives it as his opinion that if the houses of the European officials would not have been wrecked like the rest, the Garos would have been convinced that the catastrophe was their work, and they would have retaliated. There would have been earthquake riots. Without that complication the visitation was sufficiently severe. Mr. R. D. Oldham, of the Geological Survey of India, an expert in seismology, favoured the lecturer with the first fruits of his investigation, from which it appears that the greatest disturbance—the shock was felt in Berlin, in France, and North Africa—covered an area of at least one thousand square miles, and possibly extended beyond those limits very considerably, even to five times the area.

The average depth of the disturbance was five miles below the surface. The cause of the earthquake was the sudden and permanent displacement of five thousand cubic miles of the solid-crust of the earth, by a nearly horizontal fracture or thrust-plane above which the upper part of the earth's crust was pushed over the lower. At first the opinion prevailed that the centre of the earthquake lay along the southern edge of the hills bounding the Southern Valley, where there were evidences of subsidence occasioned by earthquakes in former periods. But it was found that the centre passed through the mass of hills, separating the North from the South Valley. The internal fracture apparently extended 180 miles by 70, part of it reaching westward beyond the hills and passing under the alluvial plain. The displacement of such an immense mass of the earth's crust, from whatever cause, naturally and inevitably shook with such rapidity and overthrew everything standing on the surface. There was a constant quake not always in one direction, and this continued with such little intermission throughout the night and the next day, that it was practically impossible to count them. The instruments gave way at the first shock and recorded nothing. The vibrations did not wholly cease in parts of Assam till August, and in some districts they were noticeable in September. What happened five miles beneath the surface that sent the solid earth into convulsions lasting for months? Possibly a great cavern or series of caverns like the Mammoth Caves in Kentucky, fell in and set the whole region in motion; or there may have been a sudden condensation of steam; or a volcanic disturbance dislocating strata. The first thing to be done in trying to ascertain the depth at which an earthquake has its origin is to note the direction of the fissures in the walls of buildings. The Director of the Geological Survey telegraphed to the local authorities to make careful observations and records of all cracks in walls. The answer was that there were no walls left; all were levelled. Even the minhers or memorial stones placed on the hills by forgotten races that had survived hundreds of other earthquakes, succumbed to this the most formidable of them all, and were either broken and overthrown, or wrenched out of the ground. The velocity of the shock was estimated at 10,000 feet per second or 112 miles per minute. In Japan, where there is an Earthquake Department, and careful records are kept, the velocities vary from 3,000 to 9,000 per second. As a rule, earthquakes are most frequent in volcanic countries, but Assam, which is not volcanic, is much given to earthquakes. They were so common during the eighteen years of Mr. Lutman-Johnson's service in the province that he came to regard them with a contempt, that no doubt the terrific experience of June last has effectually dissipated. That earthquake was the most violent, so far as it is possible to judge that has yet occurred and has wrought more havoc. Fortunately, occurring at a few minutes past 5 o'clock in the evening, the number of persons killed was only 1,500. Had it taken place during the night half the population would probably have been destroyed. In London or in a Continental city with solidly built houses and public buildings, the destruction of life would have equalled that caused by the earthquake of Lisbon in the last century. The lecturer described the onset of the earthquake at Shillong—the head-quarters station 5,000 feet above sea level—as an undulatory motion, preceded by a noise described as the roar of a train, thunder, and landslip, all in one. The intensity of the motion increased, changing into a violent rocking from side to side accompained by upheavals: "the earth was like some vast piece of machinery in motion, so violent and regular was its action."

The seismometre showed that the violence of the shock was at least equal to a backward and forward motion of seven inches repeated sixty times in a minute. A fair earthquake produces a horizontal motion of two miles. Marble slabs were pushed from the tops of masonry tombs; heaps of road-metal on the road-side were scattered out in layers a few inches deep; masonry boundary pillars only two or three feet high were shaken to pieces. Destruction was universal. All masonry houses, including Government House and the Government Printing Press, were levelled, ten compositors perishing in the latter. There had not been a cloud in the sky; but the shock was the signal for a deluge of rain, and the whole country was instantly enshrouded in cloud and dust and rain. The fall in of the houses was the cause of the dust. The embankment of the Lake gave way and the water rushed out; fissures opened in the ground and gave out fountains of water or sand. Persons, who were all in bed, rushed out in their night clothes; the houses fell as they ran out, and they could get neither clothes nor shelter. Everyone was amazed, terrified; husbands ran to seek their wives and children, and wives rushed about inquiring whether their husbands were killed. A crowd of people collected on the cricket ground, many who had been ill, half-dressed, in bare feet, some crying, some in hysterics. One lady rescued a young officer ill with typhoid, by pushing him through a falling window out into the rain; the house falling she was herself shut in, and was saved by a servant at the risk of his life. The native servants behaved admirably. So did the gallant little Gurkhas, who worked throughout the night rescuing people and fixing up shelters. Everyone was drenched and no one could get dry clothes or a bed to lie on. The roads were fissured; all communication with the outside world was cut off. It was the same story in all the other stations. The food supply threatened to give out; no drinking water was to be had, for sand had filled the wells and the tanks gave way. The whole country seemed to have subsided; the rivers changed their levels; the banks giving way and the beds silting up. The situation was confronted with energy. In some stations the local authorities took the responsibility of fixing a fair tariff to prevent the poor from being oppressed by grain dealers who ran up prices excessively. Efforts were made to restore communications, and relief came. In many of the villages things were even worse than in the stations. The hill sides shifted and carried away houses and hamlets. In many places fissures opened and people who fell in could not be rescued. Arable land and pasturage were in a few moments covered with sand or with water; it seemed as if the end of all things had come. But it was only an earthquake; a readjustment of a portion of the earth's crust that had somehow got out of touch with its surroundings.

THE recent eclipse observations were supposed to have been more successful than anything ever previously attempted. But some evil genius evidently dogged the feet of the observers. Although the photographs they took by far surpassed all former efforts, many of them have gone astray. Among these the most important is a cinematographic film "showing all the phenomena of the sun's eclipse." This was taken at Buxar by the Rev. G. M. Bacon, and that gentleman, a few days before the mail left, discovered its loss just on the eve of the conversazione of the British Astronomical Association. Mr. Nevill Maskelyne had, it seems, undertaken to develop the film and went to the docks to carry away Mr. Bacon's precious baggage. After receiving it he noticed the straps of one of the boxes had been cut, but concluded that Mr. Bacon had had occasion to open it for some purpose. When he was ready to develop the eclipse film, he found it had all been abstracted except a few inches. All the other films Mr. Bacon exposed while in India came out well, but the very one which was most valuable, which it was impossible to replace, and which was being awaited with the utmost eagerness and interest, had disappeared. Mr. Bacon thinks it might have been his Indian servant, who, perhaps, had been commissioned by some enterprising scoundrel to rob him of the one film that above all others he was anxious to show in England. Of course the unfortunate Indian servant comes in for suspicion. Mr. Bacon had an excellent servant, the possessor of unexceptionable chits. But a London daily journal gravely makes the assertion, and further speculates as to the whereabouts of the particular film at the present moment, believing it possible it is now being exhibited somewhere in India. We have not heard of it, and probably the film was not lost in India at all. Mr. Bacon is not so speculative as his friends, however, and in offering a reward of fifty pounds expresses the belief, that it was either lost at Buxar, or during transit from the Royal Albert Docks to the Egyptian Hall. All the other films were to be displayed at the Astronomical Conversazione yesterday.

THE New Zealand Government publishes annually "Statistics of the Colony," a blue book extending over 500 pages, and we have now received the issue giving the figures down to the end of March 1897. The population of the colony according to the census taken in April 1896, stood at 714,162, exclusive of Maoris, and even if this aboriginal race (about 40,000 strong) is included, the population is still 100,000 less than the normal total for the town and island of Bombay. The number of European settlers continues to increase steadily and surely year by year, while in accordance with an apparently inexorable law when a civilized race comes into contact with a semi-civilized one, the aborigines decrease in number. But one very curious feature is revealed in the statistics, namely, that the letters received and despatched in the Colony instead of keeping pace with the growth of European population has declined of late. In the year 1894 the number of letters carried by the Post Office was over 52 millions, being double the number of 13 years earlier, but in 1895, the total fell to 29½ millions, and in the following year was 30½ millions. The number of newspapers received and despatched shows a similar falling off. In the absence of explanatory letter press the reader is left in doubt as to the me

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

JAPAN AND THE CHINA LOAN.

LONDON, APRIL 18, NOON.

Reuter wires from Yokohama stating that it is officially announced that Japan will take two millions of the Chinese Loan.

MR. GLADSTONE'S CONDITION.

Oculist specialists have been summoned to Hawarden to see Mr. Gladstone.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR AND THE TSUNGLIYAMEN.

Admiral Seymour, commanding the British fleet in the China Seas, has had an audience of the Tsungliyamen, and proceeds to Tientsin.

THE DEADLOCK AT WASHINGTON.

The "New York Herald" states that the deadlock between the House of Representatives and the Senate is expected to result in a compromise without the recognition of the Cuban Republic.

(The above message has been delayed in transmission.)

LONDON, APRIL 18, MIDNIGHT.

The Washington House of Representatives have amended the resolutions of the Senate, eliminating the recognition of the Cuban Republic.

The Senate refused to accept this amendment, whereupon the House of Representatives requested that a Conference of both Houses should be held, and this the Senate has agreed to.

RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 19.

The Conference of both Houses has agreed to the Senate's Resolution, but omitting the clause relating to the recognition of the Cuban Republic.

Both Houses have adopted the report of the Conference, and the matter now goes up to the President.

THE COMING BUDGET.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will make his Budget statement on Thursday.

THE NILE CAMPAIGN.

Further operations against the Dervishes have been postponed until the end of July.

NEW BISHOP OF BOMBAY.

The Revd. James MacArthur, Vicar of South Acton, has been appointed Bishop of Bombay.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

A SENTRY ATTACKED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, APRIL 19.

A Lundikotal telegram, dated April 18, says that a sentry of the Royal Inniskilling, was attacked last night by rifle thieves and received a pistol bullet in the thigh, besides being cut over the head and neck.

General Symons left for Jamrud, to-day to interview the Jirgah there.

GENERAL HAMILTON'S APPOINTMENT.

General Hamilton left Simla to-day (Tuesday) to take up the Hythe School Musketry post at Home, to which he has been appointed.

SEMAPHORE SIGNALLING.

The introduction of semaphore signalling into India has been sanctioned, and the necessary appliances will be issued this year to Central schools and to all British units, including detached wings and hill depots.

SOMALI CAMELS.

The recently imported Somali camels have been found unsuitable for Commissariat and Transport work, but a further trial is to be afforded them at Quetta before a final decision is given.

PILGRIMAGES PROHIBITED.

A report has reached the Government of India from Tunis that pilgrimage from Tunis to the Hedjaz has been prohibited for the present year for sanitary reasons.

ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE STORM IN HYDERABAD.

SECUNDERABAD, APRIL 19.

Saturday's storm was repeated yesterday, but under more terrific conditions. It continued with one short abatement for about seven hours, blowing down huge trees in the principal thoroughfares and swamping some streets with rain and hailstones.

The Nizam has postponed his shooting excursion for another week.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

NAPLES, APRIL 18.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Goorkha left here this evening.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Mombassa left here on 15th.

SUEZ, APRIL 18.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macdonald for Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta, left here yesterday evening.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Forbes left here yesterday evening.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Oriental arrived here, from Bombay, this morning.

TRIESTE, APRIL 16.

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer Imperatrix, from Bombay, arrived here this afternoon.

HONGKONG, APRIL 19.

The P. and O. Company steamer Peshawar (extra) left here yesterday afternoon.

The P. and O. Company steamer Brindisi (extra) arrived here this morning.

COLOMBO, APRIL 19.

French mail steamer Dupleix from Calcutta arrived.

The N. Y. K. steamer Muke Maru left Hongkong for Singapore on the 18th instant.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed firm. Surats firm.

Good Bhownuggur	2 28-32

The Manchester Market has been firm.

2½ per cent. Consols	110 3-4
3 per cent. Rentes	102 1-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	113
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	91 13-16
Bar Silver	25 15-16

The sum of about £150,000 has been paid into the Bank of England.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORTS.

APRIL 19.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, perfect.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, prefect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.

Private telegrams in secret language for Greece cannot be accepted.

Cable Pernambuco Ceara interrupted.

Communication between Bolamo and Bissao interrupted.

Line Saigon Bangkok restored.

Cable Capetown Mossamedes interrupted.

Private correspondence with Costa Rica suspended. Diplomatic telegrams alone can be accepted until further notice.

Private telegrams for Costa Rica may be posted from Panama. Rate to be collected is that to Panama.

The postage to be collected from sender on telegrams to Costa Rica posted at Panama is usual rate of five annas.

Cable Cayenne Pinheiros interrupted.

Amazon Cable interrupted beyond Gerupa.

Cable Sierra Leone Acora interrupted.

Telegrams for Nicaragua are subject to censure at San Juan Del Sur and accepted at sender's risk.

SIMLA IN THE SEASON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, APRIL 15.

THE face of Simla has changed since last week, for the keen, cold breath of spring has given place to the atmosphere that comes up from the plains, charged with dust, warm, impalpable and penetrating. The rhododendrons are at their best on Summer hill, and strawberries begin to greet one at afternoon tea, but dust pervades everything and the little tin-roofed structures on the hill sides, where secretaries and hill colonels dwell, are leaving off, being cold and draughty, and becoming uncomfortably baked in the mid-day sun which strikes fiercely wherever the slope is to the south. In other words, we are having very much the weather one expects in a dry July in France, but the subalterns escaping from the plains—for their leave season commences to-day—are eloquent upon the subject of how much better this is than what they have just left down below.

We have our crumpled rose leaf, none the less, I might almost describe it as a good big bramble with thorns that mean business—it consists in the scarcity of water—a most serious matter so early in the season, with two good months before us during which no rain is to be expected. It seems that the snowfall, though much as usual in the higher ranges of the Himalayas, was deficient last winter in the lower. As the result, the springs are insufficient to feed the reservoir, and so much of the reserve supply has been used up during the past month that the most stringent economy has now to be exercised to prevent the service breaking down altogether. The taps run only for a few hours each day, and worse than this, the edict has gone forth that road-watering is to be very greatly curtailed, if it does not cease altogether. Experience shows that this is very likely to mean typhoid fever later on. It also reproduces the uncomfortable conditions of the hot season before last, when so thick was the dust, that sombre civilians and gaudy field officer alike arrived at Viceregal Lodge for the birthday ball, one uniform tint of grey, and had to be brushed in the verandah before one could be altogether certain whether they would come out black or red. Already one sees crowds of thirsty coolies, armed with brass utensils, waiting at the stand pipes on the Mall, each one intent on rushing in when his turn to get water comes round, and the only wonder is that so little confusion takes place.

Suggestions have come before the Municipality for setting up water metres in all the houses with a view to ascertaining where waste occurs, and of making those who consume more than their share pay enhanced rates accordingly. Apart from the cost of initiating such an arrangement, however, and the fact that the supplying of taps of smaller gauge would have very much the same effect with less expenditure and friction, it is argued that it is hardly worth while to take measures of the kind, which could not come into force until next year, when an additional reservoir is already in course of erection, and should be completed by the season after next, which will hold a supply, sufficient for sixty days, in reserve, and thus completely solve the difficulty.

Meantime it would seem that the railway is really coming to Simla, and if it be true that the shares of the company are already underwritten, its arrival is not likely to be much longer delayed. When it is here the station will, no doubt, expand into suburbs, though whether the solution of over-crowding is to be an electric tram line to Mashobra or a suburban train service to Tara Devi is a matter upon which opinion is divided.

For the moment everybody is too busy settling into their houses, and making arrangements for the coming season to think of very much else. A few picnics are being inaugurated, it is true, and people are beginning to look round and invite their friends to dinner or tennis, but as yet these things are only in their commencement, and memsahibs are more concerned with the extra rupee a month, which the jhampanies were given last year on account of the dearness of grain, and are holding out for this, than with the question of partners and frocks. One thing that strikes everybody is the comparative scarcity of ponies, either to hire or buy. The dealers are here as usual, but all the best of the animals they have brought up seem to have already been taken. So much is this the case that one meets men on foot who were seldom seen last year off a hill pony, and wretched animals are being taken on for the season which would, last year, have only found an occasional job. People who have not yet come up, therefore, will be well advised to bring their ponies with them. The roads about the station are now so well fenced and wide, that even the biggest waler can be ridden with comfort, and as the hills are steep to climb unaided, and a man looks out of place in a rickshaw in daylight, the matter is of more importance than it at first seems.

Talking of rickshaws, it is worth noticing that Simla has at last produced a veritable specimen from the flowery land, with Japanese figures in gold all over the back and an air of jaunty lightness about it that is quite refreshing after the all too solid proportions of the usual vehicle. The occupant is no doubt perched a bit high and the wheels may have a tendency to wobble and rattle, but three jhampanies seem to be able to propel it as fast as four can drive an ordinary rickshaw, and in a place like Simla where, for sanitary reasons, it is most desirable to reduce the number of coolies as much as possible, this is no slight recommendation. No doubt the ideal mode of locomotion for these hills would be something of the nature of a motor bicycle, warranted not to go more than six miles an hour down hill, yet capable of climbing the steepest ascent. Until that is invented, however—and we are likely to have to wait some time for it—the Japanese jinrickshaw is certainly worthy of notice.

THE CATHOLIC FUNDS CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—As the judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Badrudin Tyabji, yesterday, in the suit between Ignacio Francisco De Penha and others *vs.* Jose Francisco Rodrigues and others respecting the management of the funds and properties attached to the Church of Nossa Senhora de Salvagao, Lower Mahim, throws the costs of the suit on the plaintiffs, who took action in the matter with a view to causing enquiries into the administration of the bequests, etc., left by deceased parishioners, etc., and preventing, as far as possible, the funds, etc. from being mismanaged and misapplied, etc., may I be permitted to suggest that a public subscription be opened for the purpose of re-imbursing the said plaintiffs for the heavy loss involved on them in consequence of the said decision? There can be no doubt that the object of having recourse to a court of law was to benefit the trusts and place the same on a better footing. At all events the intention was a praiseworthy one, but the public spirited men who meant to do good have to pay heavily as a price for their activity. Here again I am strongly reminded of the well-known saying, what is everybody's business is nobody's concern, and I am afraid that yesterday's decision leaves the fate of the funds at the absolute disposal of the Bishop, and that there seems to be no remedy. If the Bombay East Indian Community is not wanting in public spirit and patriotism, I am sure they will come forward and help the plaintiffs by liberal subscriptions. I am a poor man, but if a subscription be opened to help Messrs. DePenha and others, I shall be happy to forward my humble mite to such person or persons that may be appointed to collect, receive, and acknowledge subscriptions.—Yours, &c.,

PRO BONO.

April 19.

WE find in the "Revue du Cercle Militaire" some details of the French Army manœuvres which are to take place in the autumn. At the camp of Chalons, the 3rd corps will execute some exercises and evolutions, using ball cartridge, and will afterwards manœuvre against the 6th corps under the direction of General Jamont. The Army manœuvres of the 8th and 13th corps will be directed by General de Negrier. With the exception of the 9th Division at Paris, the other corps will execute divisional and brigade manœuvres. As far as may be possible within the limits of the estimates, the 4th battalion, save those at Paris and in the forts, will take part with their regiments. Most of the cavalry brigades will manœuvre independently, but two provisional divisions formed, one of the 4th, 10th, and 11th brigades with the 13th Cuirassiers of the 5th, 9th, and 12th brigades, will operate against one another. The 3rd and 4th division will take part in the manœuvers of the 3rd and 6th corps under direction of General Jamont, and the 6th and 7th divisions in those of the 8th and 13th corps under General de Negrier. In addition, all the brigades attached to corps, and some others, will take part in the manœuvres.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, APRIL 1.

ON Tuesday night, in the House of Commons, Mr. Vicary Gibbs moved for a Select Committee of Royal Commission to consider the monetary condition of India and the effect of closing the Indian Mints; also to report on the suggested establishment of a gold standard in that country, and to make such recommendations as they thought fit. He drew a lurid picture of the condition of India, which he ascribed to the closing of the Mints, Mr. Maclean seconded the motion; but he stated that he differed from many of the monetary views of the Mover, some of which he combatted with vigour, to the amusement of the House. Mr. Wylie defended the policy of the Indian Government, and moved, as an Amendment, that, as the Government were giving due consideration to the monetary condition of India, further communications from that Government should be awaited before any steps were taken. He held that it was not the closing of the Mints which had caused the stringency to the Money market, but the want of confidence among banks and merchants, and a dread that the policy of the Indian Government should be overturned by the action of Parliament. Lord G. Hamilton opposed at great length the arguments in favour of introducing bimetallism into India. He believed that an attempt to open the Mints without some arrangements would be an act of lunacy, and therefore he should be very sorry to be associated with any inquiry into the monetary system of India if that inquiry would lead to the reversal of the policy established in 1893. He could not accept the Motion, but he was ready to grant an inquiry, not by a Select Committee or a Royal Commission, but by a large and expert Committee into the monetary system of India, and into the proposals of the Government of India for the establishment of a gold standard in that country. He would, therefore, submit an Amendment to that effect. Sir W. Harcourt made a short debating speech, but approved of Lord G. Hamilton's amendment which was carried. The *Manchester Guardian* is unable to detect any material difference between the amendment and the motion of Mr. Vicary Gibbs. It urges that no inquiry into the monetary system of India can be of the slightest value, or, indeed, can be an "inquiry" at all, which does not take into account the effect of the attempt to artificially raise the gold value of the rupee by closing the mints and thus endeavouring to make the currency of India more scarce on the interests of the producers, traders, money-lenders, and capitalists, not merely of India but of Great Britain; and no report on the proposals of the Indian Government for the establishment of a gold standard in India can have any practical utility unless it makes "recommendations." It is evident, therefore, that the Secretary of State for India declined to accept the original motion not really on account of any fault in the wording, but solely because its acceptance might have seemed to imply an admission of the justice of the criticism of the recent monetary policy of the Indian Government which accompanied its introduction. Indeed, Lord George Hamilton himself stated that it was the speech of the mover, rather than the motion, to which he objected. But surely the fact that an inquiry is admitted to be desirable, after the policy of closed mints has been in operation for very nearly five years, justifies the criticism. The mere declaration in the amendment to the effect that the Government of India has made new proposals for "the establishment of a gold standard in India" is an admission that the policy has been a failure in its one essential purpose—the practical establishment of a gold standard and a fixed par of exchange, which everybody knows that the mere closing of the mints against the free coinage of silver was expected to effect The paper urge that when the Government of India yielded to the temptation of endeavouring to secure fixity of exchange by the establishment of the most artificial and insecure form of money ever invented—an inconvertible and at the same time "scarce" rupee—it overlooked the fact that, after all, half a loaf was better than no bread. Abundance of a kind of money which did not handicap India against her trading competitors provided India, by stimulating production and exportation, with at least the very best compensation for the evils resulting from the non-establishment of a more universally international monetary system which would have had all these advantages in addition to a just relation to the money of her creditors.

The following Memorial has been extensively signed by bankers and merchants engaged in trade with India:—"To the Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Secretary of State for India.—We, the undersigned bankers and merchants of the City of London, engaged in trade with India, desire respectfully to call your Lordship's attention to the urgent need for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the monetary condition of India, and into the suggested scheme for the establishment of a gold standard there. We desire to assure you of our deep concern as to both these points, and to express our opinion that, with a view of allaying apprehensions generally felt, and affording the best prospect of a satisfactory and permanent settlement, it is of great importance that an inquiry should, without delay, be undertaken by a Select Committee of the House of Commons."

Vice-Consul Lethbridge brings to light a striking case of neglect of British interests in his district [Caen] He paid a visit to the premises of the "Societe Cooperative Agricole Centrale de Normandie," an association founded last year by the Agricultural Syndicate of Calvados for the promotion of trade, and found British goods unrepresented. His own account of the whole matter will serve to impress our manufacturers with the need there is for them to keep their eyes here, there, and everywhere in quest of fresh business. Speaking of the association he says:—"If the system has not yet been introduced into the United Kingdom, I think the study of its objects and attention to its progress may be interesting. According to the prospectus, the society draws its members from all the agricultural syndicates of Calvados, and has for its objects: (1) The sale and purchase for its members of all food-stuffs used for man or beast; (2) to sell every kind of agricultural produce of its members; (3) to facilitate the direct exchange of farm produce between its members; (4) finally, by every means in its power to facilitate the direct relations between producer and consumer, so that both may profit by the suppression of the middleman's commission. Considering the experiment most interesting, I have visited the premises which the society has just opened, and the honorary secretary showed me round, and most kindly volunteered all the information he could give me. I found myself in a miniature agricultural show, everything being on view that one is accustomed to see at these exhibitions. Everything was marked in plain figures, and at prices which are extraordinarily cheap, that is to say, if coupled with reasonably good quality, which I was told was the case. British-made goods were only conspicuous by their absence, which certainly was a painful surprise to me, as I had always seen our agricultural implement-makers well represented at the different agricultural shows. The only reaping, threshing, or sowing machines which I saw here were of American make. As carriage and dutty cannot cost the American less than the British manufacturer, it would seem that the American knows better how to push his sales than the Britisher. This confirms an impression I received some fifteen years ago, when Acting U. S. Vice-Consul at another port in Calvados. I found that nearly all the trade circulars, price lists, &c., which came to me from the States were made out in English, French, and Spanish, and the prices worked out in each country's money. How different this is from our countrymen's usual system is familiar to anyone who is a reader of the Consular Reports."

Politics have not been kind to Spanish bonds, but the condition of the market has long been purely artificial, owing to the tenacity with which the big financial interests at Paris have rendered support, although, in consequence of the latter, there has usually been a sharp recovery after any little period of depression. The difficulties in dealing now that the existence of the Coulisse is threatened have presented a new adverse feature, and it is stated that the banks at Paris are refusing to carry over the bonds. The market was not helped yesterday by the rumour of a big Parisian failure, and now there is the gathering war-cloud to depress our spirits. Probably the best thing that could happen from the point of view of the Spanish bondholder would be the acknowledgment of the independence of Cuba in return for a monetary indemnity. Only the United States must gaurantee it, for otherwise the last state of the bondholders would be far worse than the first.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to start upon his new financial year as jolly as a sandboy. The nation has put its best leg foremost during 1897-98 and has fairly astonished itself by its ability to pay in ever-increasing sums without any show of discomfort. It may not be the height of financial skill to under-estimate your income by £3,570,000, but a little item of that kind will be readily forgiven. Receipts are higher all round, if we except the miscellaneous section. Customs and Excise have increased £554,000 and £840,000 respectively, and argue for increased prosperity of the people. Property and income tax, with £600,000 to the good, and the estate duties with a gain of £270,000 do not argue for any particular gloom on the part of the moneyed classes, although in respect to the latter item, the last quarter has been exceptionally profitable, and has wiped out what would otherwise have been a deficit. Stamps speak well for trade, inasmuch as an increase of £300,000 is shown under this head, of which it is significant that the last quarter is responsible for £180,000. Even the Post Office, for which a decrease was prophesied, came up smiling with a gain of £310,000. Indications of improving trade have not been wanting as we have repeatedly shown, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer is able to confirm the notion. We have gathered impetus now, and can cheerfully look forward to 1898-99.

No advance having been made in the Bank rate this week, the demand for bills has been increased and rates are now slightly easier than they were. There does not seem to be much likelihood of any permanent downward movement in the value of money however. It is true that the Government has not yet begun to disburse to any appreciable extent, and that next week a large sum will be set free in connection with the payment of the dividends on the Consols, while a large amount of Treasury Bills will already be redeemed. But a very striking fact which should not be lost sight of in calculating the possibilities of the future is that since the middle of February the market has increased its indebtedness to the Bank by nearly seven millions, while meantime the privatedeposits have been increased by only about 1-3-4 millions.

A private meeting of shipowners and others interested in the welfare of the mercantile marine was held at the offices of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company to-day, under the presidency of Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., Chairman of the Company. There were also present Sir Donald Currie, Sir Charles Cayzer, the Earl of Selborne, Sir E. Dawes, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Bryce, and Lord Charles Beresford. The object of the gathering was to consider the question of the protection of our mercantile marine in time of war. Speeches were delivered by the Chairman, Mr. Morley, Lord Charles Beresford, and others, but no definite resolution was come to; and the subject was adjourned for further discussion. Meanwhile the drift of opinion was in favour rather of the utmost precautions on the part of the naval authorities for the protection of merchant ships than of any plan of Government insurance of shipping against loss.

During the current month, Antwerp is to be the scene of an International Congress of Commercial Instruction. It will discuss the part that primary schools should take in commercial education, the best methods for instruction on the same subject in the intermediate grades and those that should be employed in the higher grades. The invitation says that the necessity for commercial instruction, the study of accounts, the acquirement of foreign languages, of geography as applied to commerce, of law and political economy is universally recognized, but the present methods of teaching have been criticized so that the congress in Antwerp will afford an opportunity for the expression of opinions by practical business men in all parts of the world who have succeeded and are qualified to indicate the way business can be advanced by the proper education and the need that exists for more thoroughly fitted assistants. This Congress will have delegates from the nations that are foremost in the race for the markets of the world, and important information may be divulged regarding the expedients which have been resorted to retain markets or obtain new ones.

Discussing the probabilities as regards a continued rain of gold from Europe across the Atlantic, Messrs Henry Clews and Co. in their circular dated New York, March 12, say:—"At last the large floating foreign balance due to this country (the United States) has proved too ponderous to yield to the various arrangements for postponing its settlement, and gold is therefore flowing in from Europe in large volume. The amount shipped and engaged for shipment since the influx set in is about £15,000,000; and the low rates of exchange indicate no immediate abatement of the movement. It is helped by large supplies of produce bills; but the main cause appears to lie in the fact that this deferment of settlements has reached the limits of financial convenience. How far the movement may run it would be difficult to estimate. If it were to be measured by the amount due to us, the imports of gold would be extraordinarily large; but the European banks could ill afford to part with any very large sum in view of the moderate supplies now on hand and the existing threatening derangements in European politics, which must be causing a good deal of liquidation of international accounts. As we have on this side the Atlantic no pressure for money, but rather a plethora, the probability would seem to be that so soon as the withdrawals begin to make themselves severely felt in London, arrangements may be made for a further extension of the credits we are now granting to Europe. At the same time, it is to be considered that we have now reached a period when the proportion between imports and exports usually causes the foreign exchanges to balance against us, and the factors contributing to that condition may be expected to have a certain influence in that direction soon, though far from sufficient to liquidate the balance remaining due to this country. Some allowance, however, must be made for the possibility that we may have to remit for war vessels or military munitions purchased abroad; but those payments would not be immediate, nor could they be really serious in amount." The same New York authorities call attention to the accumulation of gold in the United States and to the amount due from abroad as fortunate in view of the possibility of the country being engaged in a foreign war.

Speaking at a great mass meeting at Leicester in the Floral Hall, Mr. John Morley said:—There is one further point about these West African transactions to which I draw your especial attention. People talk in these days, I am afraid, very often vaguely and at random, about wars for trade. To-night I do not weigh in the moral balance the question of obtaining markets by reckless human slaughter, whether of white men or of black men. I will confine myself to another point. If you go to war to make commerce flourish, at least make sure that the commerce is there. Is there a trade in this region to warrant either England or France in lighting up the fame of a European conflagration? I will give you one figure, and only one. The total exports and imports of our five divisions of West Africa are six million pounds a year. I think the whole of our seaborne commerce, if I recollect, is something like 800,000,000*l.* a year. Therefore, you see what a small thing it is. I do not disparage it. I am one of those who think that commerce—that is to say, the peaceful exchange between one community and another of the products which each can produce to the greatest and best advantage—is the best aim which any civilised society can set to itself. Commerce in one aspect—and not an unimportant aspect—is one of the objects for which civilised communities exist, and it promotes civilisation. Therefore, I am not saying a word against trade as such. I should be a lunatic if I said anything of the kind. But is this trade expanding? The Colonial Secretary the other day talked of indefinite extension. Well, we have got a little test of that in the four years from 1892 to 1896. The total increase of exports, plus imports in this region, was 450,000*l.* Surely we must have some sense of proportion. War for expansion of trade may be noble, Christian, benevolent, or it may not. But do not have war unless you are sure of the expansion. Then we are told it is quite true that the extension at present is small. You cannot tell what these countries may ultimately be worth. "You would have talked," they say to me, "in the same way about India 150 years ago." Yes, but India then contained millions of civilised people. I will not go into the question whether West African savages can become civilised people, but I have taken great trouble to consult and learn as best I could about it, and these declare that it must, in any case, be centuries before West Africa can become anything like an India.

SECUNDERABAD GYMKHANA MEETING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, APRIL 16.

THE depression which had already been wrought by an unmerciful temperature was happily relieved yesterday afternoon by a very interesting Gymkhana, got up by Mr. Archer-Shee, of the 19th Hussars. The Gymkhana pavilion was abnormally bright and lively for this time of the year. "Society" gathered in force, and it was difficult to miss a familiar face belonging either to Hyderabad or Trimulgherry. Perhaps, the attractiveness of the card accounted for the immense assemblage. Five events were marked down on the programme, and all of them were carried out successfully, thanks to the management. The results were as follows:—

Tent Pegging Challenge Cup—Value Govt. Rs. 100. 1st Prize H. S. Rs. 30; 2nd Prize H. S. Rs. 15. Open to members only, on horses 14-2 and over. The cup to become the property of the member winning it at 2 successive Gymkhanas—3 runs—miss and out—marks carry 6—move or fairly split peg 4, stroke with point 2. A maximum of 2 marks may be given each run if the judge considers the pace and style very good. Length of carry 25 yards. Barbed spears not allowed. Spears to be at least 7 feet long—Entrance H. S. Rs. 3. Present holder of the cup, Captain Buist, 2nd Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent.

Lieut Harboard, 2nd Lancers, H C..... 1
Capt. Armstrong, 3rd Madras Lancers 2

Fifteen competed. Capt. Buist, the holder of the cup, had hard luck, as all his three pegs split. The cup was eventually won by Mr. Harboard, whose pace and style were excellent.

Polo Ball and Bucket Competition—Competitors to take a polo ball off a stick about 3 feet high and drop it in a bucket 30 yards from the stick. Marks will be deducted unless competitors go at full gallop—Entrance H. S. Rs. 2. A Prize.

Lieut Archer-Shee, 19th Hussars..... 1
2nd-Lieut Woodman, 19th Hussars..... 2

Nineteen competed. A number of the competitors evidently suffered from want of practice, Mr. Archer-Shee's win was very popular.

Saturday to Monday Race—competitor to be lying on the ground with white shirts on (over their clothes). On the word go being given, they will run to a bavin placed behind, wash off a small smudge of grease paint, and then pack shirt, towel, and soap in a Gladstone bag, light a cheroot and round the course over hurdle, carrying the Gladstone bag. Winner must have his cheroot alight. Each Competitor to bring his own shirt and Gladstone bag—Entrance H. S. Rs. 2. A Prize.

Lieut Oakes, 3rd Madras Lancers 1
Lieut Archer-shee, 19th Hussars..... 2

Thirteen competed. The event was a very amusing one. Mr. Hope, who had lit his cheroot first, was unable to mount his steed, and after a tremendous scramble, Mr. Oakes came in first, followed by Mr. Archer-Shee. The rest turned up in Indian file.

Noah's Cambridgeshire—1-2 Mile (Open to anyone in Station) 1st Prize Rs. 10, 2nd Prize Rs 5, and 3rd Prize Rs 3, to be given to Rider or Driver. A distance handicap for Elephants, Camels, Mules, Bullocks, Horses, Donkeys, Ponies, and Bicycles:—Bicycles and horses scratch—Ponies 50 yards, mules 250 yards, camels 400 yards, donkeys 450 yards, bullocks 500 yards, and elephants 600 yards. Entrance free.

Mr Armitage's Slate c h Elephant "Sally"..... 1
Major Thackeray's Slate Burma Elephant "Dorkel"..... 2
Mr Shiny's ch aust Gald "Poona"..... 3

Five camels, 4 ponies, 5 elephants, 2 horses, 1 donkey, 1 mule, and other animals of sorts graced the field. Only one bike started. It was a most interesting race. The handicap was fairly good, as the elephants just beat the horses on the post. The first and second elephants belonged to the Heavy Field Battery. The most amusing thing on the course was Major Afsur-ud-Dourah's Ostrich "Spatchcock," ridden by his little son, 6 years old. The youngster unfortunately came to grief about three-fourths of the way round the course, but he mounted again, and finished his ride in front of the pavilion, where he was greatly admired and applauded. The camels had hardly enough start, and the mules all cantered along and refused to leave each other. The race was eventually won by a trunk by "Sally," the fleet-footed tusker belonging to the H. F. Battery.

The Poodlefakers Scramble.—Competitors to start with chits on which will be written a sentence with a missing word, they will ride to their nominatrix, who will fill in the answer, then ride back to the Judges with chit, any number of answers allowed, but only one at a time. First correct answer wins. Prize—Entrance H. S. Rs. 2. A brooch.

Mrs Kerrich nominates Mr Claridge..... 1

Ten appeared for distinction. The ladies had to fill in a number on the chit under 15. The real number was 8, and Mrs. Kerrich eventually won. Several ladies did not catch the idea until it was too late, and the honorary secretary had a warm ten minutes at the end of the race, submitting to interrogatories.

KHANDALLA NOTES.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—Since the storm and rain of Thursday last, there has been a marked change in the weather. It is now as perfect as any to be found on the best of hill stations in India. The nice and cool breeze that keeps on blowing all the day enables people to go up the hills with impunity, even during the hot parts of the day. From the wooded heights of Khandalla the grandest views of the ghauts can be obtained. In short, Khandalla is more beautiful than any hill station on this side of the country, and the scenery is on a far grander and more magnificent scale. During the Easter vacation Khandalla was crowded with visitors. Every available place on the hill was occupied. The exodus after these holidays was exceptionally large, so much so that several casual visitors had to go elsewhere for want of accommodation at Khandalla. Even now there is a fairly large number of people at the Khandalla Hotel. The following are the names of the visitors at the hotel:—Surgeon-Lieutenant and Mrs. Clemsha, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders-Slater, Miss Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Schelling and children, Major and Mrs. Mayne and party, Mrs. Smith, Lieutenant Ruck Keene, Lieutenant Ralph, Dr. Julius, Miss Holloway, Surgeon-Captain and Mrs. Hodgens and party, and Mr. and Mrs. Carter and party. More visitors are expected to come in shortly for the season.

ADDRESSES TO HIS HIGHNESS THE RAO OF CUTCH.

A PUBLIC meeting was held a few days ago in the hall of the library at Mundra, in Cutch, to give addresses to his Highness the Rao of Cutch, expressing the feelings of gratitude of his subjects for the liberal arrangements made and for the expenses incurred on a large scale for eradicating the plague, which raged for four or five months in Mundra, and to Mr. Pestonji Sorabji, Chief Plague Officer, and to Drs. Mason and Karanjia for valuable services rendered by them during that time. The meeting was numerously attended by gentlemen of known respectability, and was presided over by Mr. Ratansi Jivandas, son of a leading merchant of the place. The entrance of the hall was decorated with plantain tree leaves and with beautiful flowers in pots. The students of the English and Gujerati schools were arranged in a row at the entrance, holding banners of variegated colours in their hands. Long before the hour fixed for the commencement of the ceremony, the hall was overcrowded. Exactly at 4-30 p.m., Mr. Pestonji Sorabji came in the company of Surgeon-Captain Mason, Nurse Miss Hale, and Dr. Karanjia, and was welcomed by the students, who showered flowers on the party, the hall resounding with cries of hurah and Jaiya Rao (i.e., long live the Rao).

The address to his Highness was first read. It expressed sentiments of loyalty and gratitude for the paternal regard which his Highness had evinced for his subjects and the readiness with which his Highness authorized Mr. Pestonji Sorabji to spend large sums of money with a view to promote the welfare of his subjects during the prevalence of the epidemic. Mr. Pestonji Sorabji informed the meeting that the address would be sent to the Maharaja in a silver casket pursuant to the desire expressed by the general public, and further remarked that it was very fortunate for him that he should be the means of placing the same before his Highness. The address to Mr. Pestonji was next read, which expressed feelings of gratitude for the kind and sympathetic way in which he conducted himself with zeal towards people in distress, always bearing in mind their wants and requirements. In reply Mr. Pestonji said that he did not deserve all the good things that were said of him, but that credit was due to his Highness, his advisers, and the Political Agent, who, as a representative of the British Government, rendered valuable assistance, and to Surgeon-Captain Mason and to Dr. Karanjia, and the whole of the staff connected with plague work, and to the Mundra officers.

The addresses to Surgeon-Captain Mason and Dr. Karanjia were thereafter read, and replied to by them, expressing their grateful thanks for the same. Vakil Kuvarji sang some verses especially composed for the occasion, and was followed by the students, who also sang some beautiful songs, and were presented with handkerchiefs and sweetmeats. The meeting dispersed at about 6-30 p.m., after the usual distribution of pan-sopari and flowers.

MILITARY NEWS.

LIEUTENANT PEARSON, R. E., is posted to Military Works, Bengal Command.

LIEUTENANT BANNERMAN, 1st Bombay Lancers, is detailed for plague duty.

MANY priests and people (says a Bangkok paper) went from Bangkok to the Phra Pathom Chedi pagoda, near Ratburi, for the recent Bhuddhist Arc Festival. On their way back a body of over thirty camped for a night at Hua-Krabok, and at sunset one of their number, a priest named Phra Lek, went off into the jungle for a stroll, with only a boy accompanying him. He was warned that at that hour the jungle was dangerous from wild animals. The warning was not heeded, and neither priest nor boy ever came back. From the remains found next morning it was evident they had been devoured by tigers.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

WARDS.		No. of Attacks.	No. of Deaths from Bubonic Plague.	Total Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	3
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	0	0	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	
	Fort, Northern	0	0	
	Esplanade	0	0	
B	Mandvie	2	2	18
	Chuckla	0	0	
	Umarkhady	0	1	
	Dongri	3	0	
C	Market	2	0	23
	Dhobi Talao	3	0	
	Fanaswady	3	1	
	Bhuleshwar	2	0	
	Khara Talao	1	1	
	Kambharwada	1	1	
D	Khetwadi	0	0	7
	Girgaum	1	0	
	Chowpaty	0	0	
	Walkeshwar	2	0	
	Mahaluxmi	6	0	
E	Mazagon	4	0	44
	Tarwady	0	2	
	Second Nagpada	2	0	
	Kamatipura	1	0	
	Tardeo	2	1	
	Byculla	6	6	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	3	2	13
	Sewree	0	2	
	Sion	2	1	
G	Mahim	15	5	17
	Worlee	4	6	
	Water Division	0	0	0
	N.-R. & Unknown	21	0	
	HOSPITALS.			
	Parsee		0	
	Jain		1	
	Grant Road		2	
	St. George's		0	
	Mahim Custom Rd.		0	
	Wari Bunder		0	
	Adamji Peerbhoy		0	
	Jain, Parel		1	
	Telegu		0	
	Ripon Road		0	
	Hindu		1	
	Soonee		4	
	Arthur Road	1	2	
	Nizampura

plague hospital at Marwad is now quite empty, the only patient it contained, a doobla boy of twelve, having died on Sunday. During the last three days some Christian families of Lower Damaun have removed to Varkoond, a village at a distance of about two miles, owned by the Mody family, and containing rich and magnificent buildings erected by Mohomedans who have amassed wealth by the trade with Africa. The Damaun artisans who earn their bread in Bombay, who came here to avoid the plague while it was raging there, are leaving this for Bombay in consequence of the steady decline of the plague mortality here. Since yesterday there has been no death or attack from plague in Upper Damaun outside the Fort, while within the fort more dead rats were found in H. E. the Governor's palace.

THE ALLEGED DESECRATION OF A TEMPLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—With reference to our correspondence with the Plague Committee regarding the desecration of the Temple at Old Nagpada by a European lady doctor, we have received the following reply, which we hope you will be good enough to publish in your paper and oblige.—Yours, &c.,

RAGHOBA RAMKRUSHNA, AND OTHERS.

No. 17020, Plague Commissioner's Office,
Bombay, Customs House, 31st March 1898.

To the Poonjaree and other Worshippers at the Temple of Laxmi at Old Nagpada Road. . . Petitioners,—The Committee regret the occurrence complained of. The matter has received careful attention, and arrangements have been made that when necessary their temple will be examined by a Hindu of the caste.

(Sd.) G. WARNEFORD, Lieut.,
Secretary, Plague Committee, Bombay.

MEETINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

THE DAVID MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE twelfth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held, yesterday afternoon, at 3 p.m., at the registered office of the company, Rampart Row. Mr. Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia was in the chair.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Dr. Temulji B. Nariman, the following report of the directors, together with the audited statements of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1897, was adopted :—

The directors have the pleasure to lay before you the annual report of the company's affairs, together with the audited balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending 31st December, 1897. The net profit amounts to Rs. 1,54,558-15-9, including the balance of Rs. 7,573-10-4 brought forward, which they trust will be found satisfactory considering that the working of the mill was much hampered by the continuance of the plague in the early part of the year. From this amount an ad-interim dividend at Rs. 2½ per share for the half-year ending 30th June, 1897, has already been paid, absorbing Rs. 37,500 and leaving a balance of Rs. 1,18,558-15-9 for disposal which the directors propose to deal with as under :—To dividend at Rs. 25 per share on 1,800 shares free of income tax, making in all Rs. 45 per share for the year, being at the rate of 9 per cent. Rs. 45,000 to depreciation account—building Rs. 5,000, machinery Rs. 40,000, to reserve fund account 20,000, to debenture loan charges 3,000, to carry forward 5,558-15-9, total Rs. 1,18,558-15-9. The directors have ordered out from well known makers about 25,000 spindles, ring and mule, with preparatory auxiliary machinery and the same has been provided which will meet all present wants with a fair margin for future contingencies. To accommodate the above 25,000 spindles a building is being erected under the supervision of Messrs. Gostling and Morris, which is nearing completion, and it is hoped that the new extension will be at work before the end of the year. About 19,099 square yards of land have been purchased during the year under report, costing Rs. 48,724-12-0. You will be pleased to hear that for the above purpose debentures to the extent of Rs. 3,00,000 at a very favourable rate of interest, viz., 4 1 2 per cent. per annum, to run for a period of 9-1-2 years were issued and allotted on the 1st January 1897. Mr. C. Douglas, one of the directors, having resigned from the board owing to his departure for England, Mr. J. E. Ezra was appointed a director in his place and you are requested to confirm the application. Two of the directors, Mr. Jamsetjee Ardaseer Wadia and Mr. J. E. Ezra, retire from the board by rotation, but are eligible for re-election. You are requested to appoint two auditors for the current year and to fix their remuneration. The mill buildings with new extension under construction and machinery, together with the stock of cotton, yarn, stores, &c., are insured against fire to the extent of Rs. 31,38,500.

Resolutions were then passed declaring a dividend at the rate of Rs. 25 per share for the latter half of the year under report ; confirming the appointment of Mr. J. E. Ezra as a director in place of Mr. C. Douglas ; re-electing Messrs. Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia and J. E. Ezra directors ; and appointing the firm of Messrs. Furguson and Irwine and Mr. Ratanji Rustamji Mehta auditors for the current year at a remuneration for Rs. 250 each.

The customary vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE STANDARD MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED

The seventh ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the above company was then held at the same place, Mr. Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia presiding.

The following report of the directors for the year ending 31st December, 1897, was adopted :—

The directors beg to submit for your approval and adoption their annual report and the audited balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending 31st December, 1897, showing a net profit of Rs. 53,000-15-0, including the balance of Rs. 1,052-0-1 brought forward, which they recommend may be dealt with as under :—A dividend at the rate of Rs. 15 per share on 1,592 shares free of income tax Rs. 23,880, to depreciation account (machinery) Rs. 20,000, to Debenture loan charges Rs. 3,000, to law suit charges Rs. 2,000, to carry forward Rs. 4,120-15, total Rs. 53,000-15. The profits would have been much larger but for plague and the consequent disorganisation of the labour market with which you are already familiar. To add to our troubles, we had constant breakdowns of the driving arrangement of the weaving shed causing considerable loss and falling off in the production of cloth. The directors have communicated with well-known makers for sending out a complete arrangement for driving the weaving shed which, it is hoped, would give us a smooth and uninterrupted working. During the year under report machinery of the aggregate value of Rs. 44,707-2-7 was added to the carding and spinning departments and to the weaving shed. The company purchased in auction during the year under review, property adjoining the mill premises belonging to one Trimbak Gungadhur Ranade. But it became the subject of a law-suit which, however, was decided by the High Court in the company's favour with costs. The complainant has filed an appeal. One of the directors, Mr. Rustomjee Ratanjee Banajee, resigned his seat on the board on leaving for up-country and the place has not yet been filled up. Two of the directors, Mr. J. E. Ezra and Mr. Currimbhoy Ebrahim, retire from the board by rotation but are eligible for re-election. You are requested to appoint two auditors for the current year and to fix their remuneration. The mill buildings and machinery, together with the stock of cotton, yarn, stores, &c., are insured against fire to the extent of Rs. 19,20,800.

The meeting then resolved to declare a dividend at the rate of Rs. 15 per share for the year under report, to re-elect Messrs. J. E. Ezra and Currimbhoy Ebrahim directors and to appoint Messrs. Dorabji Hormasji and Jamsetji Cursetji auditors for the current year at the remuneration of Rs. 250 each.

The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

I. M. RAILWAY.

Week ending 9th April, 1898.

Description.	1898.	1857.	Inc. for the week.	Dec. for the week.	Aggregate Inc.	Aggregate Dec.
Miles Open ...	933	940	..	..	..	...
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers, Parcels, &c.	52,580	44,601	7,679	...	...	5,300
Goods	92,042	69,519	22,493	...	1,09,134	...
Other earnings	4,667	3,338	1,279	..	27,296	...
Total for week	1,48,980	1,17 538	31,451	...	...	...
Aggregate ...	19 53 234	18,2 2,163	...	...	1,31,121	...

AN interesting society wedding will take place before many weeks have passed. The bride is Miss Ellis, a daughter of Major-General Sir Arthur Ellis, K.C.V.P., and of Lady Ellis. She is also god-daughter of the Princess of Wales. Her elder sister, Mrs. Ralph Sneyd, is well known in society, and will soon (says the *Lady's Pictorial*) take up the position chatelaine of Muckross Abbey, the historic place near Killarney recently purchased by her husband and now being decorated. Lady Ellis is a daughter of the first Lord Taunton, and her sisters are Lady St. Germans and Mrs. Edward Stanley. General Sir Arthur Ellis is of the family of which Lord Howard de Walden is head. He is nephew by marriage to the Dowager Lady Howard de Walden, one of the richest women in England, and she is now in possession of the estates left by her brother, the late Duke of Portland. Sir Arthur is perhaps the best known of the Equerries of the Princess of Wales. The bridegroom-elect, Mr. Walter Kerr, is a grandson of Lord Charles Kerr, who died recently, and who was stepbrother to the seventh Marquess of Lothian.

Rowland's Macassar Oil prevents hair falling off or turning grey, cleanses it from scurf and dandruff, and makes it beautifully Soft, pliable, and glossy. It is the best Brilliantine, contains no mineral ingredients, can be had in a golden colour for fair hair, and is most exquisitely perfumed. Sold by Chemist and Drug Stores. Avoid spurious imitations, and buy none but Rowlands.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE decrease in the opium revenue, regarding which Sir James Westland made such a bitter complaint during the Debate on the Financial Statement, still continues. At the last sale of Bengal opium there was a falling off of nearly Rs. 2,00,000 from the estimates.

THE military authorities at Fort William have received a Jubilee Medal for the late Major-General Yeatman-Biggs, who commanded the Presidency District for some time. The medal will, of course, go to his relatives.

ON the 13th instant the Chief Commissioner of Assam held a Durbar at Shillong when he presented gold watches to Babu Nobin Chandra Chakravarti, Mr. Frank Hodgkins, U. Roy Singh, and Babu Subhendu Mohan Goswami, subordinates of the Public Works Department, in recognition of the services rendered by them after the earthquake.

THE complaint which Mirza Faraidoon Jah laid against Prince Mirza Mahomed Muquin, nephew and son-in-law of His Highness the late Prince Sir Jahan Kadar Mirza Bahadur K.C.I.E, charging the latter with wrongfully confining the complainant's wife, was, after due investigation, found to be false by the Suburban Police Magistrate who dismissed the complaint on the 5th instant.

A MEETING of the Mahomedans and Hindus of the district has been held on the premises of the Aikman Union Club, Mainpuri, to express regret at the loss sustained by the death of the late Sir Syed Ahmed. Moulvi Mohammed Anwar-ul Hasan, Vakil, having given a short sketch of the life of Sir Syed, the following resolution was carried : "This meeting expresses its deep sympathy with Mr. Syed Mahmud and other relatives of Sir Syed."

THE erection of the electric light at the Golden Temple, Amritsar, has been completed. There are altogether sixteen lights put up round the tank and one large globe on the tower of Baba Atal. The lights add considerably to the external appearance of the building and at night the effect is very fine. The Sikhs would not allow the interior of the temple to be lighted by electricity on the ground that it would be contrary to the doctrine expounded by the Gurus. The temple authorities have however secured two large chandaliers for the inside of the temple and are awaiting a possible change in views of their co-religionists, especially the Kukas. The cost of the whole is about Rs. 60,000 and the committee appointed to execute the work are said to have ample funds in reserve to defray the maintenance expenses.

THE usual weekly statement from the Paper Currency Department regarding the reserve in coin and bullion held by the Government of India still shows no increase in gold, the value of which remains at Rs. 25,54,204. It is to be noted, however, that the net value of the imports of gold into this country during February last was over Rs. 1,08,00,000. The value of the silver received and coined in the mints during the same month was Rs. 4,09,923 in Calcutta and Rs. 43,56,594 in Bombay. The disproportion, of course, is due to the fact that British dollars are being coined in such large quantities at the latter mint. In the last official year British dollars to the value of Rs. 1,08,88,330 were exported, and the present rate of issue appears to be about a crore and a half a year.

THERE has been some sniping by Waziris at the Kazha column and at the Datta Khel camp, but no casualties have occurred, and the Tochi Valley is not otherwise disturbed.

No less than 63 villages in the Punjab have, at different periods within the last few months, caught the plague infection ; and up to date nearly 2,000 cases have been reported, of which more than 1,200 terminated fatally.

"A SLOVENLY irregular method of dressing," observed Brigadier-General Wedderburn, who commanded the troops of the Honourable East India Company on the Bombay side about the year 1776, "bespeaks a drunken unregarded battalion. A soldier is never to be permitted to wear his hat improperly." Nowadays, on the other hand, attention appears to be given to the wearing of the hat to the disregard of higher things. "Smartness," says in a recent order the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion East Surrey Regiment, who has a pretty talent for definition, "consists in doing things correctly and up to time, not in cocking the hat and blowing out the chest." And then, writes the *Pioneer* from which we quote, the order goes on to draw a contrast between the slack man and the smart man after the maner of Overbury or Earle. "The slack man can be recognised at once by his marked ability and readiness in making excuses. He himself is completely taken in by his own excuses and fully believes in them, and expects everyone else to accept them also. His whole stock in trade consists of them, and he has one ready for every emergency. The smart man, on the contrary, is a poor hand at framing excuses, but, fortunately, he does not require them ; by his forethought, trouble and personal attention to what is required to be done he overcomes all the little obstacles to which the slack man at once gives in, and his work is consequently well and satisfactorily done. Even if he cannot for any reason do it himself, he will take care that it is done and properly too : whereas the slack man would leave it entirely undone and fall back on his excuse. The smart man cultivates qualities of mind and body which ensure his success in any position in life, because he will have it so, he will accept no excuses for failure either on his own part or on that of others. The slack man is seldom out of trouble and is a failure in any position, but lays the blame on others, whereas the fault lies entirely with himself. He is fit for little except to lead a lady's lap dog about with a string and that he would do badly—he would probably either get the dog run over or entangle passers by with the string." Duly encouraged this sort of battalion order would admit of many interesting developments, which, whatever else they would effect, would certainly add to the gaiety of cantonments.

A REPORT which has been received of the attempted assassination of the Nawab of Dir last week, writes a contemporary, goes to show that intrigue is rife in the country beyond the Swat River. One of the Nawab's nephews with two accomplices were concerned in the attack, which ended disastrously for themselves, as they were captured and killed. The Nawab was only slightly wounded in the hand. Details of the affair have not yet reached India, but we need not be surprised at its occurrence. So far back as June 1896 Major Deane, Political Officer at the Malakand, wrote : The Khan is at present on bad terms with his brother Sher Muhammad. His relations with other brothers and Khans are not satisfactory, nor is his position with the Paindeh Khel clan and the Khel Akhundzadas on a good footing. His people generally, and in particular those in the Talash and Adinzai valleys, are a good deal oppressed by his agents and appeal in vain to him. . . . There is no present danger that I can see of any hostile feeling arising against Government from dislike to Government—the risk lies in the Khan alienating men whom he ought to keep with him, and of these eventually forming a strong faction against him in his own country." Major Deane, as we know, desired to tighten our control on Dir by taking over the administration of the Talash and Adinzai valleys: but the Government of India rebuked him gently for suggesting such a departure from the policy of non-interference. Nevertheless Major Deane was right; the rival factions will take care that if we don't leave them entirely alone, we shall be compelled to make our control more and more direct and effective.

THE *Punjab Government Gazette* of the 14th instant publishes the usual weekly statement giving particulars of all plague cases known to have occurred in any part of the Punjab since the outbreak of the disease in October last. Since this return was published, three fresh villages in the Jullundur district, viz., Hansaran, Sirhal Mandi, and Dhandhua have been seized. The totals in the Jullundur district are—villages 52, cases 1,717, deaths 1,065 ; cured 400 ; under treatment 252. Hoshiarpur district—total villages 11 ; cases 273 ; deaths 166 ; cured 54 ; under treatment 112. Whether it is that the climatic conditions are favourable to the propagation of the disease in the Jullundur district, or whether the cause may be, it is certain that it has been more prevalent, persistent and difficult to control and suppress in that district than in the neighbouring district of Hoshiarpur. It is hoped now that the crops are being cut the influence of the sun on the soil may have the effect of abating the disease.

ON the average four out of every seven persons seized with plague at Karachi die with the disease

A MONUMENT to the late "Red Prince,' Frederick Charles of Prussia, was unveiled in Metz in the presence of his only son, Prince Frederick Leopold (who represented the Emperor), the Governor of Alsace-Lorraine, the commander of the Lorraine corps, Count Haselor, many other generals, and deputations from all the regiments of which the late Prince was honorary colonel. The Veterans' Club of his favourite regiment, the Red Ziethen Hussars, of which the Duke of Connaught is now honorary colonel, sent a magnificent wreath with the inscription, "The Burlin Club of Old Ziethen Hussars to the illustrious chief of their regiment, the captor of the fortress of Metz." The bronze statue of the Prince, of heroic size, stand on an octagonal pedestal more than 20ft. high.

THE performance of the Powerful continues to be made the subject of newspaper correspondence. Sir Arthur B. Forwood believes that much disappointment is felt that the voyage of this vessel to China was not conducted under what he calls "trial" conditions. He is greatly exercised also at the high rate of coal consumption, which he associates with the water-tube boilers of the ship, and he asserts that a calculation based on certain data attributed to Mr. Goschen "proves that the vessel burnt over 2 3-4 lb. per unit of power, or just double the consumption of a mail vessel fitted with cylindrical boilers as are now used in the merchant service." Mr. George R. Dunell, replying to this letter, warns "uninstructed amateurs" that indicated horse-power is but a partial measurement of the power of a steam engine. He points out that if the coal consumption is high in terms of the power developed the fact may be due to various causes. It may be due to the boiler, but this by no means follows, for the boiler may be generating steam in a most exemplary manner while the engine may be wasting it with corresponding recklessness. He cites as an example the trials of the "Diadem," in which ship the cylinder capacity proved to be too great for the volume of steam used ; and again, on the other hand, he explains that the cylinders may be too small to give the expansion of steam needed for economy. Mr. Dunell also asserts that the comparison set up by Sir Arthur Forwood with the merchant navy is unfair because of the large quantity of steam absorbed by the auxiliary engines of ships of the naval service. Admitting that the consumption of the Powerful, as recorded, was undoubtedly high, he by no means agrees that this was the fault of the boilers. Mr. William Allan also has a letter on the subject, his opinion being that if the Admiralty had given the Belleville boilers what he considers a fair and practical sea test before adopting them so largely "thousands of pounds would have been saved."

IN the Queen's Bench Division on March 28, before Mr. Justice Day and a special jury, the hearing was begun of an action brought by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, the well-known dramatist, against Mr. E. Ledger, proprietor of the *Era*, for an alleged libel, contained in an article which appeared in that paper on Oct. 16 last commenting on a report of an interview with the plaintiff which had appeared in the Edinburgh "Evening Dispatch." It was stated that on seeing the "interview" in print Mr. Gilbert wrote to the *Era* to correct the statements made, and that the article complained of appeared subsequently. The defendant, denied that the words complained of bore any defamatory meaning, and pleaded that the article was a fair comment on matters of public interest. Counsel for the plaintiff, in opening his case, said the words complained of attacked his personal character, accused him of overweening conceit, made untrue allegations as to the failure of his plays, and falsely accused him of attacking Mr. Sydney Grundy, and of insulting wholesale the actors who had rendered him valuble assistance. Mr. Gilbert gave evidence in support of his counsel's opening statement, and was cross-examined at length. On March 29 Mr. Carson, Q.C., addressed the Court for the defendant, and Mr. Lawson Walton, Q.C., replied for the plaintiff. His Lordship summed up, and the jury, after deliberating for two hours and a-half, said they were unable to agree. They were therefore discharged.

AT a recented sitting of the German Reichstag the bill to amend the Military Penal Code was successfully read a second time, and is now within measureable distance of becoming law. This favourable prospect, however, is still, to some extent qualified by the problem of Bavarian particularism. With rare and commendable discretion the Reichstag was content on Saturday last to evade that difficult issue, and Section 33 of the bill, which provides that the Military Penal Code of Bavaria shall be the subject of further legislation, was allowed to pass with a minimum of inconvenient discussion. Prince Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, expressed his gratitude to the House for this evidence of their loyal desire to hamper the negotiations as little as possible. "I was about to beg the Reichstag," he said, "to abstain from debate on the subject of a supreme court-martial for the kingdom of Bavaria because, as the House is aware, differences of opinion exist which have not yet been settled. Section 33 of the bill is the expression of our desire to leave the question open and a *res integra* until an understanding has been reached. The lines have been laid for such an understanding by the negotiations between H. M. the Emperor and H. R. H. the Prince-Regent of Bavaria. Should this understanding be effected, as I have no reason to doubt, then the matter will present no further difficulties. Meanwhile, it would be well to await the result of these negotiations. Section 33 makes it possible to let the whole question slide and this course commends its If, too, out of regard to both Sovereigns concerned." Opinion south of the Main is strongly aroused in defence of what is called "Bavaria's reserve right" to a separate court-martial in times of peace, and it is significant that the friendly meeting which was planned between the Emperor and the Prince Regent at Regensburg has been cancelled. It remains now for the Emperor himself to conciliate the more powerful and jealous of his federal allies.

LORD ROSEBERY is the subject of an appreciation in the "Outlook." The article is written by some one who knows him well, as the following extract will show :—"Lord Rosebery is essentially a man of movement. If he talks to you in his study he is busy cutting books that he is certain to devour as soon as you are gone. At Dalmeny he silently steals out each evening to sleep at Barn Bougle Castle ; when at Downing-street he would go to The Durdans at night much as most of us would walk upstairs to bed. The Durdans is, of all his houses, his favourite residence, though it would be wrong to infer that the owner of Ladas and Sir Visto finds in its nearness to Epsom Downs its chief attractions. In all his houses the fact is writ large—in pictures, in books, and what not—that there are three men who most attract him—Cromwell (who liked racehorses), Napoleon (who liked Empire), and Mr. Pitt (about whom he has written an excellent monograph). His serious moments are very serious, for he ponders (it would almost be true to say broods) over some of the deepest mysteries of life and death. In many ways he is a lonely figure. In temperament, in taste, and in worldly circumstances he is very unlike the great mass of his party. This loneliness is not modified by the splendid isolaton in which he finds himself in a Chamber where thirteen out of every fourteen of its members are his opponents. In politics he is solitary perforce, in society he apparently determines to be no other. Was it otherwise he would be the most sought for, and the most brilliant figure in society. As things are, it is the brisk, alert walk from The Durdans to the Paddock that interests and exhilarates him, and not the crowded salon of the fashionable hostess. This does not mean that he has no friends ; for he has plenty, and with them he is a delightful companion ; at Court he is a persona gratissima. Has he not, indeed, been married by countless paragraphists to the Princess This or the Empress That ? And yet he is still a widower."

THE annual Phil-Hellenic dinner, in celebration of the anniversary of the declaration of Greek independence, was held on March 29 at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Mr. Gladstone sent a message of sympathy, and letters were read from Mr. John Morley and others. Subscriptions of about £1,500 were announced for the Greek refugees in Thessaly.

AT the Old Bailey on March 30 Fredk. Karaczeowski, thirty-nine, cabinet-maker, was charged with the wilful murder of Olga Wisoska, whom he shot in a house in Brickiane, Spitalfields, on Feb. 5, together with a man named Clement Kosmirowich. Counsel for the prosecution said there was no doubt that at the incitement of the deceased woman the prisoner had been subjected to considerable violence, and that the shot had been fired through a door without the intention of killing any person. A plea of manslaughter, tendered by the prisoner's counsel, was accepted, and the prisoner was convicted of this offence, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

THE SIKHS AND THE GRANTH.

A NEW TRANSLATION.

THE following is the copy of an address to Mr. M. Macauliffe by the Singh Sabha of Amritsar :—

We, the members of the Singh Sabha of Amritsar tender you our best thanks for your devotion to our cause with mind, body, and money. We recommend those members of the Sikh faith who are unacquainted with your merits, learning, friendly feeling, and goodwill, to become acquainted with them, and be grateful to you ; to remember the services you are rendering us, and to impress on the hearts of their children not to forget the good work you have done in translating into English our sacred and divine Granth Sahib. We are informed by very trustworthy gyains, that you have been studying our sacred books for over twenty years, and that, resigning a good appointment you have now laboured continually for some years at making an accurate translation of them ; that you have revised it seven times ; and have now made it as complete as it can be done by human efforts ; and in doing this you have not only spent your valuable time, but also a very large amount of money. Dr. Trumpp's translation is not only generally incorrect, but injurious to our religion, and there was a great want felt for an accurate version when Akal Purukh induced you to undrtake it and fulfilled our desires. It would have been well, had we executed the translation ourselves ; but Akal Purukh granted you the credit of the performance. As the holy Guru Tegh Bahadur foretold that men would come from beyond the Sea to assist the Sikhs, so you have been rendering us mental and bodily assistance, and we now earnestly recommend the members of our faith who can afford it, to render you all possible aid in publishing your work, and we trust our wishes will be fulfilled. We desire, now that you have become, though roughly, acquainted with our customs, our sacred books, and the tenets of our religion, that you fulfil the promise made in your circular letter of the 1st January last, to the Sikhs, in which you stated that you would write nothing prejudicial to their religion. In the lives of the Gurus which you are going to write we desire you to consult the Gur Bilas the Sidhaj Parkash and such other works as have been compiled from ancient writings not corrupted by the Handalis, the followers of Kabir, and the poets who infused foreign elements into our religion. The Khalsa and the whole Sikh race will be thankful to you for attending to this request. In conclusion we pray Akal Purukh to protect you in every way on your ocean journey and to fulfil your objects and desires ; and that you may be ever a well-wisher and supporter of our sect and our true faith. We earnestly hope that your translation of our sacred books will soon be in the library of every true Sikh.

The following is a translation of Mr. Macauliffe's reply in Gurmukhi :—

Sirdars and members of the Singh Sabha,—I am very pleased to hear on my departure from Amritsar that you appreciate the work I have been engaged in, namely, making a translation of your sacred books. I have every hope that as you now extend to me your patronage and encouragement, you will continue to do so, and that you will inform any of your co-religionists who are unacquainted with my labours, that I am working for their benefit. I hope when my translation is published, that the merits of your Gurus will be extolled in remote countries where they are now perhaps never heard of. I shall attend to your wishes in writing the lives of the Gurus, and I intend to give you an opportunity of examining that part of my work also before publication. I hope you will be as well satisfied with it as you have been with my translation which has now been exhaustively examined and passed by most learned gyanis. I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for your kind wishes on my temporary departure from India ; and, on my part, I also pray that I may find you all on my return in the cold weather as well and happy as you are now.

THE JUBILEE EARTHQUAKE IN ASSAM.

PAPER BY MR. H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON, I.C.S.

AT a meeting of the Indian section of the Society of Arts, held the day other at the Imperial Institute, Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick presiding, Mr. H. Luttman-Johnson, I.C.S. (late Commissioner of the Assam Valley District), read a paper on "The Earthquake in Assam." There was a large attendance, which included Sir O. Tudor Burne, Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir Juland Danvers, Sir A. Jephson, Sir G. Birdwood, Sir M. M. Bhownaggree, M.P., General Younghusband, Mr. H. Birdwood, Surgeon-General de Renzy, and Mr. Digby (secretary)

Mr. Luttman-Johnson first dealt with the geographical and geological features of Assam, and described the various earthquakes which have taken place in that country in former years. No earthquake, so far as could be judged, had ever been so violent or had wrought such havoc, there as the one which the lecturer described as "the Jubilee Earthquake" in Assam in June last year. This was abundantly proved by the descriptions of former earthquakes, and the fact that many buildings which had succumbed on this occasion had resisted former attacks. Very careful geological surveys, especially of the central hill track, had not disclosed traces of such a catastrophe in their historic time. The lecturer proceeded to describe the effects of the earthquake at the four principal stations in Assam—namely, Shillong, Gauhati, Sylhet, and Tura. Shillong was demolished in a few seconds. The shock, which was preceded by the rumbling underground noise so familiar to dwellers in earthquake countries, lasted some three minutes. The earth was like some vast piece of machinery in motion, so violent and regular was the action. As instances of effects produced, he mentioned that (1) marble slabs were pushed from the tops of masonry tombs ; (2) heaps of broken roadmetal by the roadside were scattered out in layers of a few inches deep and (3) masonry boundary pillars only 2ft. or 3ft. high were shaken to pieces. Every masonry building in Shillong was levelled with the ground, not by overthrow, but by a shattering of the walls into fragments, on the top of which the roofs subsided. It was calculated that there was a backward and forward movement of 7in. every second. At Gauhati, sixty-three miles from Shillong, all buildings with masonry walls collapsed but there were only five deaths in the town. At Sylhet there were three distinct shocks. Houses both brick-built and thatched, were destroyed, and there were fifty-five deaths. At Tura, at the extreme western end of the central range of hills, about 1500ft. above the sea, the shock began with a sharp vibration, increasing in about twenty seconds to a violent rocking and heaving motion of the earth, which lasted about three minute. In about two minutes more it gradually subsided to a gentle but distinct tremor. Cracks in the ground opened out everywhere. In many cases the sods were turned completely over, so that only the roots of the grass were visible. The masonry plinths of the offices and houses crumbled away like sand, the stones rolling on all sides. Though there was some panic at first among the native population of the different towns on the whole the natives behaved exceedingly well Besides being rendered homeless by the earthquake, English people in Assam had much else to suffer. After the great shock the earth tremor was continuous for several days, and definite shocks were incessant for two or three days. At Shillong itself it was estimated that there were 200 shocks a day for the first two or three days after the catastrophe, and these gradually diminished to twenty and thirty shocks a day up to the middle of July. The sympathetic message from the Queen read out at the Jubilee thanksgiving service held at Shillong on June 20 did much to lighten the feeling of isolation and desolation which at first oppressed the unfortunate people. The fissures caused by the earthquake played a very important part. There were several apparently authenticated instances of persons having been swallowed up in these fissures. An old woman was sitting in the yard of a Hindu religious house when the ground opened exactly beneath her, and she disappeared. In another case a man and his wife were standing on the river bank when the earthquake took place, and a fissure opened under the woman, who fell into it. The husband caught hold of her hair to save her, but finding his own position insecure, let go his hold and the woman fell into the aperture. In neither case was the body recovered. Altogether some 900 persons perished in that part of the central tract which lay between Shillong and the southern valley. The lecturer, having referred to the geysers caused by the earthquake and the upheaval of the river beds, spoke of the large area over which the shock extended, it being felt in Madras to the south and at Lhasa to the north. It covered an area over 1500 miles long by 1000 miles wide. This earthquake was distinguished for the large area over which it attained a very high degree of destructive power. Over an area more than 200 miles long and not less than 100 miles broad it was everywhere sufficient to wreck the most solidly constructed buildings.

A short discussion followed, and a vote of thanks was passed to the lecturer. A series of lantern slides depicting incidents of the earthquake was exhibited.

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THE NATIVE PRESS.

TRUCULENT COLLEGE STUDENTS.

REGARDING the spirit of rowdiness and vulgarity observable in certain students in this presidency, the *Indian Spectator* says : The school and college going population of Ahmedabad seem to be competing with their brethren of another provincial capital in our Presidency in rowdiness and vulgarity of the most mischievous and contemptible kind. It is a few weeks since we were told of a strike having taken place among the resident students of the Gujerath College as a protest against the order that they should all assemble in the College Hall for inoculation. The boys thought that this was not proper etiquette, and insisted upon the inoculator coming for the purpose to their respective rooms. Some unpleasant exercise of strength was necessary to make the boys abandon these ideas of dignity. The incident has hardly been forgotten when comes the news of a stupid and cowardly hoax played on the head of an institution —which is not named—by means of a false telegram sent to him, whilst away from Ahmedabad, in the name of a teacher, giving the startling news that there was a riot in the College, and asking him to return immediately to quell it. The aspect of things leads one to think that this must have been a communal and deliberate piece of juvenile wantonness. The parents and teachers of Ahmedabad had better look sharp, and nip in the bud this newly-risen undesirable spirit in their boys, or else, they may get too much out of hand to be easily brought round again.

LORD SANDHURST AND THE NEW PLAGUE ORGANISATION.

Some of the native journals profess to see many points of interest in the short speech delivered by Lord Sandhurst the other day to the new plague committees. The *Indian Spectator* states : It contained the first official declaration that the Plague Committe, as it exists at present, is to be shortly dissolved. Lord Sandhurst paid the members constituting that body high compliments, and gave them credit for having worked disinterestedly. It is now unnecessary to scrutinize too carefully their claims to this, but we might well desire that the new organization that is to succeed them proves wiser—at least by experience—and more successful too, both in dealing with the plague and in dealing with the people. His Excellency asked the several committees to work with zeal and with a feeling of healthy rivalry. On the chairman he has cast the duty of seeing that every member works up to the mark, and to the members he gave the valuable advice that they should aim, above all things else, at securing the complete confidence of the inhabitants of their respective beats. We are glad his Excellency could give these assurances that the European officers would always be sympathetic towards the new organization. "The plan is ours," he said, and it is for the volunteers to work out the details. From whomsoever the plan originates, a great responsibility now lies upon the leaders of society in Bombay. They are to be tested now. They have begun well. Let us hope their enthusiasm will continue unabated till the plague has finally left us.

PATENTS SECURED BY MUNICIPAL OFFICERS.

Discussing what transpired at the Corporation meeting the other day regarding patents secured by Municipal officers, the *Kaiser-i-Hind* writes :—The resolution was inspired by reasons of public policy which no sane person would care to challenge. The Corporation has not wished to interfere with the inventive genius of any Municipal Officer, though, we for one, have yet failed to find a single individual who has shown a spark of that genius. All that it sternly lays down is that no official patentee shall set himself up as an infallible authority and proclaim on the housetop that his patent was a paragon of perfectionand must therefore be used by the ratepayers by hook or by crook. If he chooses to set himself up as the judge and jury on his own patent, and afterwards to force his own verdict on the citizens, he must vacate his appointment.

MAHOMEDAN LEADERS AND REUTER'S BOMBAY AGENT

Regarding the little misunderstanding that arose in connection with the telegram dispatched from Bombay that some of the Mahomedan leaders were concerned in instigating the recent riots, the *East Goftar* writes: We congratulate both the Mahomedan community and Reuter's Telegram Agency upon the friendly termination of the little misunderstanding that arose in connection with the telegram despatched from Bombay, that some of the Mahomedan leaders were concerned in instigating the recent riots. The Mahomedans have to thank the Anjuman-i-Islam for adopting prompt measures to repudiate and repel the libel, which was evidently the result of some mistake or misapprehension. The letter of the Anjuman, addressed to the solicitors of Reuter Company's Bombay Agency, is a diplomatic and dignified document, the authorship of which could not be mistaken. Mr. Williams, of Reuter's Agency, has done well in helping the Mahomedans to remove any doubt that might exist in the minds of the people of England as to the loyalty and fidelity of the community.

The *Indian Spectator* is very pleased to see that Reuter's Agential Bombay has sent four Mahomedan fellow-citizens in a complimentary tariff the matter of the telegram sent by the former to England under some misconception, which the latter justly complained of. All's well that ends well.

The *Gujerati* writes : Our Mahomedan friends have done well to protest against the unfounded charge that was brought against the leaders of their community in Bombay and outside. History has once more repeated itself in connection with the Bombay riots.

CANVASSING FOR THE CITY OF BOMBAY IMPROVEMENT TRUST.

The vernacular journals have found some amusement in the incidents of the little tea party given by Mr. P. M. Mehta to his colleagues in the Corporation the other day. The *Indian Spectator* remarks : Granting that the tea-party given by Mr. Mehta, last week, to his colleagues in the Corporation, was a well-meant effort to secure unanimity in the approaching election of four members by that body to sit on the City of Bombay Improvement Trust, one cannot help thinking that in the matter of persistent canvassing, and of canvassing so prematurely as to pass all bounds of decency, our city has acquired quite an unenviable reputation. The Improvement Bill has yet to become law. The sanction of the Government of India has to come ; and yet, we are already in the midst of a very keen, and pretty well-grown canvass for seats. If we mistake not, the canvassing dated from a time when the Bill had not even been formally introduced in the Council. Some at least of the aspirants, who would have taken Mr. Mehta's seat in the Council and shone in the debate on the Bill, are understood to have had from that very time—there are reasons to believe this—an eye on the seats on the Trust, to come into existence, and have been far-sighted enough to mould their views on the Bill accordingly. But forgetting the painful incidents which intervened between Mr. Mehta's resignation and re-election, is it not humiliating to us all that there should be a fierce and an undignified scramble, even from now, for seats in a Trust that has to come into existence? Nor can we help thinking that the attempt at Mr. Mehta's, to secure unanimity in the matter, was in itself, a canvassing—and a canvassing of not a very worthy type.

The *East Goftar* observes : The fierce light of publicity having been thrown on the proceedings of the meeting, the public can now see at a glance through the whole thing. The cat was out of the bag as

MILITARY AND NAVAL NOTES.

REGARDING the communication to Congress of the result of the *Maine* inquiry which Admiral Sicard has despatched to Washington, a service paper says, a sense of grave uneasiness has arisen, fomented, we may surmise, by the operations of eager contractors and financiers, and we cannot but be gratified to witness the temperate attitude of American responsible statesmen and the American people at large. The cause of peace has its best friend in the President, who will exhaust every resort to prevent hostilities. If, then, the disaster should have occurred through the nefarious work of some unauthorised hand, or through pure mischance—and, if the cause was external, we can hold no other view—it should not exceed the power of diplomacy to avert war. But the Cuban question looms behind, and the cause of autonomy is gravely endangered. This is sufficient to account for the extraordinary war preparations that are being made. The defence fund of 50,000,000 dols. has placed ample resources in the hands of the Government, and some days ago contracts had already been entered into the extent of 15,000,000dols. An order is understood to have been placed with Messrs. Armstrong for quickfiring guns, while a further commission has been given to Messrs. Vickers. Feverish activity prevails in mounting ordnance on the seaboard, and a bill has been introduced for increasing the Army to 103,000 men. Whatever else may come of the crisis, its definite result will therefore be to add materially to the defensive forces of the United States. The Second-class Brazilian Cruiser "Amazonas" was taken over at Gravesend at the end of last week by Lieutenant Colwell, United States Naval Attache, who was accompanied by the American Consul-General. She has received the name of "New Orleans." The Brazilian commander made the transfer as a friendly act, and thanks having been expressed, the national flag was lowered and the stars and stripes run up. A company of 300 will be provided by the San Francisco, which has come from Lisbon for the purpose. The sister ship "Almirante Abreu," now completing at Elswick, will receive the name of "Albany."

The wildest rumours have been spread as to the sale of other vessels. It has been persistently stated that negotiations for the purchase of a Brazilian torpedo gunboat or cruiser built in Germany, either the "Tupy or Tamayo," have been in progress, though the sale has been denied. The United States Government is also credited with a desire to possess the old Greek armourclads Hydra, Psara, and Spetsai, but the Hellenic Government is said to have refused to part with these vessels. The Naval Appropriation Bill reported to the House provides for the building of three battleships, six destroyers, and six torpedo-boats, besides a gunboat on the lakes of five dry docks. Messrs. Cramp are largely increasing their building facilities. The existing fleet, according to the Herald, is to form two squadrons, one of battleships and cruisers ready to proceed to Belfast (Maine), or some intermediate point to meet the attack of a hostile force bound for a northern port, or if required, to reinforce Admiral Sicard at Key West; the other of monitors to be stationed midway between Hampton Roads and Key West for the protection of the southern ports. Eight old monitors of the Civil War are to be brought out for service at New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Great numbers of merchant vessels have been placed on a list as ahxiliaries, and arrangements are being made for the postal service in case of war.

Spain is more reserved in her proceeding, and her attitude does not really provoke alarm. The torpedo flotilla is understood to be proceeding from the Canaries to Porto Rico, there to await orders, causing some excitement in America, the step being regarded as a menace to the fleet assembled at Key West. There is no sign of weakness on the part of Spain in regard to the suggested independence of Cuba. The forces in the island are being reorganised, and there will be a determined effort to crush resistance. The statement has been made that a negotiation had been completed with Italy through which Spain secures the armoured cruiser "Varese" completing at Messrs. Orlando's yard at Leghorn. The name of the "Carlo Alberto" has also been mentioned. The statement lacks confirmation. Both ships were launched in 1887. The former is a sister of the "Cristobal Colon," which was sold to Spain out of the Italian Navy under the name of "Guiseppe Garibaldi." Of preparations in the Spanish ports we hear very little, though there is great activity at Ferrol, where the last of the four destroyers just completed on the Clyde is presently expected. The "Osada" coaled at Queenstown and is to be followed by her sister.

The "Asama," one of the Japanese armoured cruisers building at Elswick, was launched the other day, the ceremony being performed in the presence of a distinguished company by Madame Arakawa, wife of the Japanese Consul-General. The ship is a cruiser properly speaking, but, like our promised "Cressys," will be fit to "lie in a line." She will have a displacement of 9,750 tons, and be 408ft. long between the perpendiculars, with 67ft. beam, and 24ft. 3in. mean draught. The engines, made by Messrs. Humphreys, Tennant and Co., will be of 18,000 horse-power, and the contract speed is 21-1-4 knots, though better results are expected. There is a 7in. belt of Harveyed steel, 9in. of the same for the transverse bulkheads, and 14in. for the conning tower, besides a 2in. armoured deck, all the Harveyed steel being produced by Messrs. Cammell. The armament will comprise four 8in. Armstrong guns coupled in armoured barbettes and gun houses, fourteen 6in. quick-firers, of which ten in 6in. armoured casemates and four with shields, twelve 12prs, and seven 3prs. The large guns, which will discharge four rounds per minute, have a normal muzzle velocity of 2,650 foot-seconds, though 30J more can easily be attained. Sir Andrew Noble, in his speech, said the broadside fire was 1,775lb. as compared with 1,472 in the much larger, Powerful. The coal capacity of the Asama is 1,300 tons, and she will be able to steam 10,000 with with economical management.

The Russian port on the Murman coast of Siberia, at the mouth of the Kola fiord, is making progress. The quays, stores, and official buildings are completed, and a new town is rising in the valley facing the port. As we have before said this coast is rarely frozen, and it is expected that, thanks to the Gulf Stream, Ikaterinskaia, as the place is named, will be accessible through the winter. Catherine Island lies off the harbour, the distance between the island and the shore being about 6,000 yards, and the harbour is wide and deep, communicating with the sea by two channels. A railway is to be laid between St. Petersburg and the port, which besides is in relation by steamboat with Norway and Archangelsk. Ikaterinskaia is to be a new base for the Russian Fleet.

Vice-Admiral Rieunier, one of the best-known and most highly-esteemed French flag officers, has been placed on the reserve list. This gives promotion to Rear-Admiral de Boisnieres de Beaumont, while Captains Servan and Valery are promoted to flag rank. Vice-Admiral Brown de Colstoun has been appointed president of the Committee of Inspectors-General, and Vice-Admiral Parrayon is now a member of that body. Rear-Admiral de Courthille is the new head of the hydrographic department.

The French Superior Council of War has just undergone a slight reorganisation. In 1893 its members were reduced from twelve to ten, and of these two members were *ex officio*. This constitution does not answer to present necessities, and accordingly, on the proposition of General Billot, the President of the Republic has decreed that the council shall again consist of twelve members, as a minimum, of whom two will hold their seats by virtue of their offices. These are the Minister of War and the Chief of the Staff.

The Shanghai correspondent of the "Times" writes under date of February 15: "The removal of the German instructors at the Tien sin camp has now been definitely settled in order to make room for Russians, and it is reported that similar steps will be taken at the Woosung forts which guard the approach to Shanghai."

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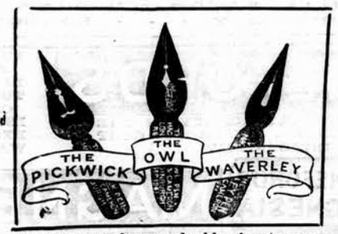

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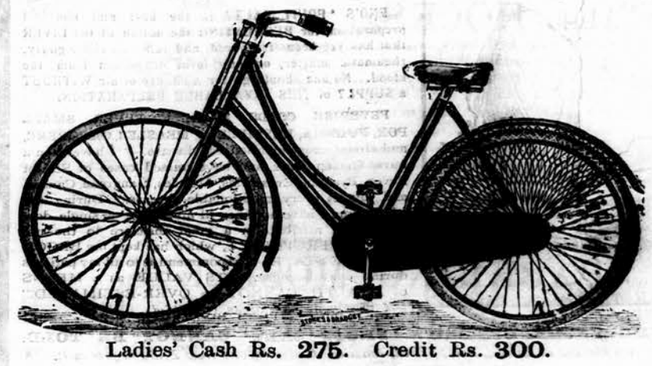

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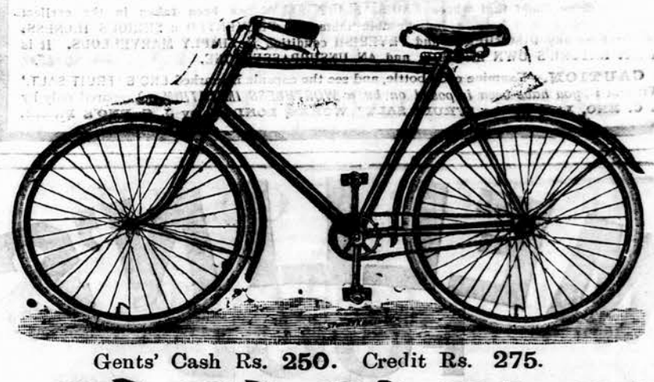

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